EXHIBIT A

7065

B10 (Official Form 10) (12/08)		
UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT Eastern DISTRICT OF Virginia		PROOF OF CLAIM
Name of Debtor: Circuit City Stores, Inc.	_	r: 08-35653
NOTE: This form should not be used to make a claim for an administrative expense arising after the commencement of administrative expense may be filed pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 303.	the case. Ar	equest for payment of an
Name of Creditor (the person or other entity to whom the debtor owes money or property): Chase Bank USA, N.A.	claim am	s box to indicate that this ends a previously filed
Name and address where notices should be sent: Chase Bank USA, N.A., c/o Stephen J. Newman, Stroock & Stroock & Lavan LLP, 2029 Century Park East, 16th Floor	claim. Court Clain (if known)	n Number:
Los Angeles, CA 90067		
Name and address where payment should be sent (if different from above):	anyone el relating to	s box if you are aware that ise has filed a proof of claim o your claim. Attach copy of giving particulars.
Telephone number:		is box if you are the debtor in this case.
I. Amount of Claim as of Date Case Filed: SUNLIQUIDATED If all or part of your claim is secured, complete item 4 below; however, if all of your claim is unsecured, do not complete item 4. If all or part of your claim is entitled to priority, complete item 5.	5. Amount Priority any port one of th	of Claim Entitled to under 11 U.S.C. §507(a). If tion of your claim falls in ne following categorics, e box and state the
☐ Check this box if claim includes interest or other charges in addition to the principal amount of claim. Attach itemized statement of interest or charges.	D. Domestic	priority of the claim.
2. Basis for Claim: See Attached (See instruction #2 on reverse side.) 3. Last four digits of any number by which creditor identifies debtor:	Ci Wages, s	alaries, or commissions (up 50°) earned within 180 days
3a. Debtor may have scheduled account as: (See instruction #3a on reverse side.) 4. Secured Claim (See instruction #4 on reverse side.) Check the appropriate box if your claim is secured by a lien on property or a right of setoff and provide the requested	before fi petition business	ling of the bankruptcy or cessation of the debtor's , whichever is earlier – 11 507 (a)(4).
information.		tions to an employee benefit U.S.C. §507 (a)(5).
Nature of property or right of setoff: Real Estate Motor Vehicle Other Describe: Value of Property: Annual Interest Rate Amount of arrearage and other charges as of time case filed included in secured claim,	purchase or service	,425° of deposits toward , lease, or rental of property es for personal, family, or id use - 11 U.S.C. \$507
If any: \$Basis for perfection: Amount of Secured Claim: \$ Amount Unsecured: \$	Taxes or governm (a)(8).	penalties owed to sental units - H U.S.C. §507
6. Credits: The amount of all payments on this claim has been credited for the purpose of making this proof of claim.		Specify applicable paragraph S.C. §507 (a)().
7. Documents: Attach reducted copies of any documents that support the claim, such as promissory notes, purchase orders, invoices, itemized statements of running accounts, contracts, judgments, mortgages, and security agreements. You may also attach a summary. Attach reducted copies of documents providing evidence of perfection of a security interest. You may also attach a summary. (See instruction 7 and definition of "reducted" on reverse side.)	Amos	unt entitled to priority:
DO NOT SEND ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS. ATTACHED DOCUMENTS MAY BE DESTROYED AFTER SCANNING.	4/1/10 and respect to c	tre subject to adjustment on every 3 years thereafter with asses commenced on or after
If the documents are not available, please explain:		REGEIVED
Date: 1/28/09 Signature: The person filing this claim must sign it. Sign and print name and tale, if any, of the cother person authorized to file this claim and state address and telephone number if different from address above. Attach copy of power of attorney, if any.		JAN 28 2009
stylen flerman	KU	THANCARSONCONSULTANT

ATTACHMENT TO PROOF OF CLAIM OF CHASE BANK USA, N.A.

THE CLAIMS

- 1. The debtor, Circuit City Stores, Inc. ("Debtor") is indebted to Chase Bank USA, N.A. ("Chase") for defense and indemnity ("Claims") in regard to the claims and causes of action as set forth in the complaint filed on June 26, 2006 in the Superior Court of the State of California for the County of Los Angeles, Central District, in Davis v. Chase Bank USA, N.A., et al., Case No. BC354564 ("Underlying Complaint"), and removed on August 1, 2006 to United States District Court for the Central District of California, Case No. CV06-4804 DDP (PJWx) ("California Court"). True and correct copies of the Underlying Complaint and the Notice of Removal are attached hereto as Exhibits 1 and 2 and incorporated in full by reference in this proof of claim ("Proof of Claim").
- 2. The Underlying Complaint centers on the Debtor and its advertising to its customers. The specific advertising challenged in the Underlying Complaint was produced by Debtor and <u>not</u> by Chase. (Underlying Complaint, Exhibit A.) Both the Underlying Complaint and the California Court have stated that Debtor's advertising is at the core of this litigation the issue being whether Debtor's advertising was misleading and deceptive. For this reason, Chase has valid claims for defense and indemnity against Debtor, the value of which depends on the outcome of proceedings in the California Court. Debtor acknowledges Chase's indemnity claim, as reflected on Debtor's Schedule F filed on docket entry number 1130, page 149 of this bankruptcy.
- 3. Although Chase currently is precluded from pursuing the Claims due to Debtor's bankruptcy filing and the automatic stay provisions of 11 U.S.C. Section 362(a), Chase reserves all rights including, without limitation, rights pertaining to the Underlying Complaint.

RESERVATION OF RIGHTS TO AMEND AND/OR

TO SUPPLEMENT THIS PROOF OF CLAIM

4. Chase reserves the right to amend and/or supplement this Proof of Claim and to set forth in additional detail the basis and nature of the Claims, to assert pre- and post-petition claims held by Chase other than those set forth herein. Chase further reserves the right to assert a claim for payment under 11 U.S.C. Section 503(b).

Exhibit 1

Drew E. Pomerance, Esq. (SBN. 101239) Michael G. Kline, Esq. (SBN 212758) Erin M. LaBrache, Esq. (SBN. 195655) ROXBOROUGH, POMERANCE & NYE LLP LOS ANGELES SUPERIOR COURT JUN 2 6 2006 5820 Canoga Avenue, Suite 250 Woodland Hills, California 91367 JOHN A. CLARKE, CLERK Telephone: (818) 992-9999 ASE IN MANUTIONS, LICEUT Facsimile: (818) 992-9991 Attorneys for Plaintiff GARY DAVIS, individually and on behalf of himself, and judge as Private Attorney General and on behalf of all others similarly situated 7 all others similarly situated 8 SUPERIOR COURT OF THE 9 FOR THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, CENTRAL DISTRICT 10 UNLIMITED JURISDICTION 11 Case No. 80354564 12 GARY DAVIS, an individual; on behalf of himself, and as PRIVATE ATTORNEY CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT FOR: GENERAL, and on behalf of all others similarly situated, 14 (1) Violation of the Consumers Legal 15 Plaintiff, Remedies Act; (2) Violation of the California Business and Professions Code Section 17200 et seq.: 16 Unlawful and Unfair Business Practices; CHASE BANK U.S.A., N.A., a Delaware corporation; CIRCUIT CITY STORES, INC., (3) Violation of Business & Professions Code 17 §17500 (False Advertising): a Virginia corporation, and DOES 1 through Fraud and Deceit; 18 Breach of Contract; Breach of the Implied Covenant of Good 50, inclusive, 19 Defendants. Faith and Fair Dealing; 20 Unjust Enrichment. 21 Plaintiff Gary Davis, on behalf of himsel mid lighter similarly situated, for his configuration 22 ("Chase Bace) and fire Cuit City Stores, INC CHASE BANK U.S.A., N.A. complains and alleges as follow \$550.00 24 08/26/08 25 SEAVES 26 11 EC: 27:38 03:58:22 27 9318 ž 22 28 COMPLAINT

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This case arises from Chase Bank 's fraudulent and unfair business practice of charging its California credit card holders finance charges in connection with purchases at Circuit City advertised as "no interest, no payment," "no interest with minimum monthly payment," or "interest and payment free" (collectively "Promotional Purchase"). Plaintiff, on behalf of himself and all individuals similarly situated, seeks damages and equitable relief for violations of the California Consumers Legal Remedies Act, the California Business and Professions Code (Unfair Business Practices and False Advertising), for fraud and deceit, and for breach of contract and breach of the covenant of good faith and fair dealing. Chase Bank's and Circuit City's fraudulent and unfair business practices violate the rights of unsuspecting California consumers throughout the state, for which California consumer protection laws were designed.

THE PARTIES

- Plaintiff, Gary Davis ("Plaintiff") is now, and at all relevant times was, a resident of 2. the County of Los Angeles, State of California.
- At all relevant times, the class of Plaintiffs on behalf of which Plaintiff is bringing 3. this suit, were residents of the State of California. Such persons shall hereinafter be referred to as the "Class" or "Class Members."
- Plaintiff is informed and believes, and based thereon alleges that Defendant Chase Bank is a corporation, organized and existing under the laws of the State of Delaware, duly qualified as a foreign corporation to transact business in the State of California, and doing business throughout the State of California. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and based thereon alleges, that Defendant Chase Bank is presently and/or has engaged in business in the County of Los Angeles, State of California.
- Plaintiff is informed and believes, and based thereon alleges that Defendant Circuit 5. City is a Virginia corporation that owns and operates numerous retail stores in the State of California, including multiple locations in Los Angeles County.

COMPLAINT

- 6. At all times relevant herein, Defendants Chase Bank and Circuit City offered a credit card through Circuit City ("Circuit City Rewards Card"). The Circuit City Rewards Card conferred certain benefits to consumers who utilized the credit card to make their purchases such as earning reward points redeemable at Circuit City stores. Another benefit of the Circuit City Rewards Card was access to Defendants' advertised promotion of "no interest, no payment" for a specified period of time on certain types of Circuit City purchases. ("Promotional Purchases")
- 7. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and based thereon alleges that at all times herein mentioned, Defendant Chase Bank, Defendant Circuit City and DOES 1 through 50, inclusive (hereinafter jointly referred to as "Defendants"), are each responsible in some manner for the transactions, events and occurrences herein alleged and that damages herein alleged were proximately caused thereby. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and based thereon alleges that each of the Doe Defendants was intentionally, negligently, or in some other manner the cause, or contributing cause of, or otherwise responsible for the events and happenings alleged in this complaint and for Plaintiff's injuries and damages and those of the Class. Plaintiff will seek leave to amend this complaint to allege the true names and capacities of each such Doe Defendant, together with such additional allegations as may be appropriate, when their names, capacities, and the nature of their involvement have been ascertained.
- 8. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that at all times herein mentioned, Defendants, and each of them, were the agents, joint venturers, trustees, servants, partners, alter-egos, parent corporations, contractors, and/or employees of each of the remaining Defendants, and that the acts and/or omissions herein alleged were done by them acting individually, through such capacity or through the scope of their authority, and that such conduct was thereafter ratified by the remaining Defendants.
- 9. At all relevant times, Defendants, and each of them, solicited business from residents and other individuals within the State of California, conducted business with consumers in the State of California, conducted business with Plaintiff and others similarly situated with him herein, and solicited business from Plaintiff and others similarly situated with Plaintiff, said business being the

CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS

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Plaintiff brings this class action, on behalf of himself and all others similarly situated 10. in California during all or part of the class period, as more fully explained below. The questions of law or fact common to the class predominate over questions affecting the individual members and, on balance, a class action is superior to other methods available for adjudicating the controversy.

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The proposed class Plaintiff seeks to represent is presently defined as follows: All persons who, in the past four years, used their Circuit City Rewards Card to

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(a) make a Promotional Purchase in California;

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(b) had made the minimum payment, or greater payment on their prior

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statement closing balance ("Payment"); and

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(c) were assessed a finance charge on their prior balance without Chase having applied that Payment to their prior balance because Chase Bank applied the payment to the Promotional Purchase rather than to the prior balance.

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There is a well-defined community of interest in the litigation and the proposed class 12.

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is easily ascertainable.

Numerosity: The Plaintiff Class is potentially so numerous that the individual joinder 13. of all members is impracticable under the circumstances of the case. While the exact number of class members is unknown to Plaintiff at this time, Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that Defendants' Circuit City Reward Card Promotional Purchase program was a widespread program marketed and promised to numerous individuals within the customer base of Defendants.

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Common Questions Predominate: Common questions of law and fact exist as to all 14. class members, and predominate over any questions that affect only individual members of the class.

The common questions of law and fact include, but are not limited to:

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Whether Defendants have engaged in practices proscribed by the Consumer Legal Remedies Act, Civil Code section 1770, subsection (a)(9), by "advertising goods or services with intent not to sell them as advertised";

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Whether Defendants have engaged in practices proscribed by the Consumer (b)

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COMPLAINT

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27 28 Legal Remedies Act, *Civil Code* section 1770, subsection (a)(13), by "making false or misleading statements of fact concerning reasons for, existence of, or amounts of price reductions";

- (c) Whether Defendants have engaged in practices proscribed by the Consumer Legal Remedies Act, Civil Code section 1770, subsection (a)(14), by "representing that a transaction confers or involves rights, remedies or obligations which it does not have or involve, or which are prohibited by law";
- (d) Whether Defendants have engaged in practices proscribed by the Consumer Legal Remedies Act, *Civil Code* section 1770, subsection (a)(19), by "inserting an unconscionable provision in the contract";
- (e) Whether Defendants have violated the Consumer Legal Remedies Act, Civil Code section 1750 et seq., by engaging in other and/or additional practices proscribed therein;
- (f) Whether Defendants' activities related to its solicitation for consumer purchases of promotional Circuit City products with the Circuit City Rewards Card, constitutes false or misleading advertising in violation of Business and Professions Code section 17500;
- (g) Whether Defendants' conduct is "unlawful," "unfair" or "fraudulent" within the meaning of California's Unfair Business Practices Act, Business and Professions Code section 17200, et seq.
- (h) Whether in their uniform, written credit applications and marketing materials, Defendants have failed to disclose material terms of Defendants' Promotional Purchase offer;
- (i) Whether Defendants made uniform, material false representations to the effect that consumers would not be charged interest on Promotional Purchases.
- 15. Typicality: Plaintiff's claims are typical of the claims of the members of the Plaintiff Class. Due to Defendants' common course of conduct, Plaintiff and all members of the Plaintiff Class have been unwittingly forced to pay off the Promotional Purchases prior to the expiration of

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the advertised grace period for such payments and have been assessed a finance charge or charges in connection with a Circuit City purchase advertised as "interest and payment free" if made with their Circuit City Rewards Card.

- Adequacy: Plaintiff will fairly and adequately protect the interests of the members of 16. Plaintiff Class. Plaintiff resides in California and has been charged finance fees in connection with one or more Promotional Purchases. Plaintiff has retained counsel who have substantial experience in complex civil litigation and class actions.
- Superiority: The class action is superior to other available means for the fair and efficient adjudication of the claims of Plaintiff. The damages suffered by each individual Class Member may be limited. Damages of such magnitude are small given the burden and expense of individual prosecution of the complex and extensive litigation necessitated by Defendants' conduct. Further, it would be virtually impossible for the members of the Class individually to redress effectively the wrongs done to them. Even if the Class Members themselves could afford such individual litigation, the court system could not. Individualized litigation presents a potential for inconsistent or contradictory judgments. Individualized litigation increases the delay and expense to all parties and the court system presented by the complex legal and factual issues of the case. By contrast, the class action device presents far fewer management difficulties, and provides the benefits of single adjudication, economy of scale, and comprehensive supervision by a single court. Certification is also appropriate given the anticipated need to create a fluid recovery fund.
- Plaintiff is unaware of any particular difficulties that are likely to be encountered in the management of this action that would preclude its maintenance as a class action.

GENERAL ALLEGATIONS COMMON TO ALL COUNTS

- Defendants solicited Plaintiff and others similarly situated to make purchases at Circuit City using Defendants' Circuit City Rewards Card and in exchange for using its services, Plaintiff and others similarly situated were eligible to receive an interest and payment free period in which to pay off the balance on certain purchases described herein as "Promotional Purchases."
- From time to time, Defendants advertise Promotional Purchases in the Circuit City Stores, Circuit City Rewards Card applications, mailers, and newspapers, among other advertising

means. The Promotional Purchase advertisements offer "no interest, no payments" for a variable period based on the amount of the purchase. For example, a Circuit City Rewards Card promotional item offered to consumers in 2006, states in large writing: "No interest! No payments! For six months when you spend \$499 or more. For 90 days when you spend \$299 or more." "It is easy to take advantage of this offer! When you make a purchase with your Circuit City credit card, present this certificate to the store associate to scan." (A true and correct copy of this Circuit City Rewards Card promotional material is attached hereto as Exhibit A).

- 21. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that this promotional material as well as variations of this promotional material, advertising "no interest, no payment" for a specified period of time, was provided or made available, from time to time, to each of the Class Members.
- 22. On March 3, 2006, Plaintiff purchased a television set from Circuit City, charging \$2,000 to his Chase Circuit City Rewards Card. Although Plaintiff did not request that this item be treated as a Promotional Purchase, Defendants nevertheless automatically treated this item as a Promotional Purchase, with the term of no interest with minimal payment until January 2008.
- 23. Prior to the purchase of the subject television, Defendant: Chase Bank billed Plaintiff for purchases made between January 14, 2006, and February 13, 2006 ("February Statement"), on his Circuit City Rewards Card. Payment was due by March 10, 2006, and if Payment was posted by March 10, 2006, no finance charge should be applied because the balance would have been paid in full. Alternatively, if partial Payment was made either of the minimum amount or a greater amount, then a finance charge should be applied only against the remaining balance after subtracting the Payment made. Plaintiff returned two items and made two on-line payments consisting of the total amount owing on March 4, 2006, and March 6, 2006, thereby paying the February Statement balance in full and on time.
- 24. Based on the language appearing in each of his monthly statements, Plaintiff was informed and believed that he would not be assessed a finance charge if his monthly billings were paid in full, or that any finance charge would be based only on the remaining balance after any partial Payment had been subtracted from the outstanding balance. Each billing statement received

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by Plaintiff states: "[W]e do not charge periodic finance charges on new purchases billed during the billing cycle if we receive payment of your New Balance by the date and time your payment is due as shown on your billing statement and we received payment of your New Balance on your previous billing statement by the date and time your payment was due as shown on that billing statement."

(A true and correct copy of the February Statement is attached hereto as Exhibit B).

- 25. Sometime after March 13, 2006, Plaintiff received his monthly statement from Defendant Chase Bank for purchases made between February 14, 2006, and March 13, 2006 ("March Statement"). Although plaintiff had paid the February Statement balance in full and in a timely manner, Defendant Chase Bank assessed a \$77.25 finance charge which appeared on the March Statement. (A true and correct copy of the March Statement is attached hereto as Exhibit C).
- 26. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and based thereon alleges that he was assessed the \$77.25 finance charge because his entire February Statement Payment was applied against the \$2,000 Promotional Purchase, payment for which was not due, instead of to the February Statement balance, thereby leaving a balance due against which finance charges were charged. The \$2,000 charge for the television was made subsequent to the issuance of the February Statement, and no Payments of any kind were due and owing for the Promotional Purchase until January 2008.

 Nevertheless, Chase Bank allocated the entire \$1,736.91 that Plaintiff paid on his February Statement to the March 3, 2006, Promotional Purchase, even though, as advertised, no amounts were due and owing on that item.
- 27. Chase Bank assessed similar finance charges against Plaintiff on at least two (2) other prior occasions involving the same type of Promotional Purchase, where payments were not due for a specified period of time, but Chase Bank nevertheless allocated all of Plaintiff's payments to the Promotional Purchase. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and based thereon alleges that thousands of other similarly situated Class Members made similar types of Promotional Purchases at Circuit City using Defendants' Circuit City Rewards Card, which Defendants treated as Promotional Purchases subject to terms of "no interest, no payment" for a specified period of time, but were thereafter charged a finance charge in a manner similar, or identical to that of Plaintiff.
 - 28. The "no interest, no payment" promotional offers fail to disclose that all payments

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made by the consumer on his or her regular monthly statement are given priority of payment to the promotional item, even if not yet billed and even if not due for many months.

- The promotional offer conveys that the consumer will receive a benefit of a grace period of anywhere from a few months to two (2) years or more. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and based thereon alleges, however, that the offer is a scam used to induce consumers into believing that they will have an extended time period in which to pay off their Promotional Purchases, when in fact, the consumer has less time to pay off the Promotional Purchases due to Defendants' practice of allocating consumers' Payments as described herein.
- Plaintiff is informed and believes, and based thereon alleges that Defendant Chase Bank knows of the terms and conditions of such Promotional Purchases, and that Chase Bank's practice of prioritizing the allocation of credit card payments to purchases not yet due and owing is deceptive, misleading, fraudulent, unfair and in violation of California law. Plaintiff further is informed and believes, and based thereon alleges that Defendant Chase Bank's practice of prioritizing the allocation of credit card payments to purchases advertised as "interest and payment free" is especially egregious and violative of California law as this practice directly contradicts the concept of "interest and payment free,"
- Plaintiff, on behalf of himself and all others similarly situated, seeks damages and equitable relief, including restitution, for violations of the California Consumers Legal Remedies Act, the California Business and Professions Code (Unfair Business Practices and Faise Advertising), Fraud and Deceit, and breach of contract and of the covenant of good faith and fair dealing. On behalf of himself and the proposed Class Members, and to the extent appropriate, on behalf of the general public of California, Plaintiff seeks, among other things, declaratory relief, injunctive relief, equitable relief, including restitution and disgorgement, and actual and punitive damages, and attorney's fees.

FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

(Violation of the Consumers Legal Remedies Act)

(Against All Defendants)

Plaintiff incorporates by reference paragraphs 1 - 31 above as though fully set forth

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33. Defendants are "persons" and provide "goods" and "services" within the meaning of the Civil Code sections 1761(c) and 1770.

- 34. Purchasers of Circuit City Promotional Purchases with the Circuit City Rewards Card, including Plaintiff and Class Members, are "consumers" within the meaning of the Civil Code section 1761(d) and 1770. Plaintiff's and each Class Member's Promotional Purchase with the Circuit City Rewards Card constitutes a "transaction" within the meaning of Civil Code sections 1761(e) and 1770.
- 35. As set forth herein, Defendants' acts, practices, representations, omissions, and course of conduct with respect to advertising and selling items as interest and payment free violates section 1770 (a)(9), (13), (14), and (19) of the Consumers Legal Remedies Act in that: (a) Defendants advertised goods or services with the intent not to sell them as advertised; (b) Defendants made misleading statements of fact concerning reasons for, existence or amounts of price reductions; (c) Defendants represented that the transaction conferred or involved rights, remedies or obligations that it did not have or involve; and (d) Defendants inserted an unconscionable provision in the contract.
- 36. This action shall constitute notice to Defendants pursuant to California Civil Code section 1782 of the unlawful, unfair and fraudulent business practices as complained herein and formal demand that Defendants: (1) cease and desist all advertising, promotional and sales activities and practices described herein; (2) cease the promotion of its "interest and payment free" credit card through the use of deceptive and misleading advertising devices as described herein; (3) cease the practice of prioritizing the application of consumers' credit card payments to Promotional Purchases; and (4) disclose to all consumers' Defendants' deceptive and illegal practices.
- 37. Should Defendants herein fail to comply with the demands as stated above, Plaintiff shall file a First Amended Complaint seeking an order, pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure section 1780 et seq.: (1) directing Defendants to cease and desist all advertising, promotional and sales activities and practices described herein; (2) enjoining Defendants from the promotion of its "interest and payment free" credit card through the use of deceptive and misleading

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advertising devices as described herein; (3) directing Defendants to disgorge, for the benefit of
Class Members, its profits and compensation emanating from its "interest and payment free"
scheme, and/or make full restitution to Plaintiff and Class Members; and (4) enjoining Defendant
Chase Bank from prioritizing the application of consumers' credit card payments to Promotional
Purchases. Plaintiff's Amended Complaint shall also seek compensatory and punitive damages,
costs of litigation, attorneys' fees and such other relief as is authorized under applicable provision
of the CLRA.

SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION

(For Violation of the California Business and Professions Code Section 17200 et seq.: Unlawful and Unfair Business Practices)

(Against All Defendants)

- 38. Plaintiff incorporates by reference paragraphs 1-37 above as though fully set forth herein. Plaintiff has suffered injury in fact and has suffered financial loss as a result of Defendants' conduct as alleged in this cause of action.
- 39. Defendants' acts, conduct and practices as described herein constitute unlawful business acts and practices within the meaning of *California Business and Professions Code* sections 17200 et seq.
- 40. Defendants' acts, conduct and practices were unlawful, in that Defendants violated the Consumers Legal Remedies Act, as alleged herein.
- 41. Defendants' acts, conduct and practices, as described herein, constitute unfair, fraudulent, and deceptive business acts and practices within the meaning of *California Business and Professions Code* sections 17200 et seq.
- 42. Defendants' acts, conduct and practices, as alleged herein, were unfair, in that any utility for Defendants' conduct is outweighed by the gravity of the consequences to Plaintiff, Class Members, and the general public, and/or Defendants' conduct is immoral, unethical, oppressive, unscrupulous or substantially injurious to Plaintiff, Class Members and the general public.
- 43. Defendants' acts, conduct and practices, as alleged herein, were fraudulent, in that they were likely to and did deceive Plaintiff, Class Members and the general public, and Defendants

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engaged in such acts, conduct, and practices knowingly.

- Defendants' unfair, fraudulent, and deceptive business acts and practices are 44. described herein and include, but are not limited to, the following:
 - Advertising promotional items as interest and payment free when purchased (a) with a Circuit City Rewards Card when in fact, interest and finance charges were frequently applied;
 - Charging a finance fee despite Payment of the monthly balance in part or in (b) full, without deducting the Payment made before assessing any finance charge; and
 - Applying monthly Payments to Promotional Purchases not yet billed or owing (¢) instead of to the balance as billed in the monthly statement due.
- As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' unfair, unlawful and fraudulent business practices as alleged herein, Defendants were able to: (a) issue more charge cards to Circuit City customers than they otherwise would have; (b) receive more credit card purchases for Circuit City products than they otherwise would have; and/or (c) charge more finance charges than they otherwise would have, and accordingly, Defendants received and are in possession of excessive and unjust revenues and profits.
- Plaintiff, on behalf of himself and all others similarly situated in California, and where appropriate, on behalf of the general public of California, seeks an order including, but not limited to (1) directing Defendants to cease and desist all advertising, promotional and sales activities and practices described herein; (2) enjoining Defendants from the promotion of their "interest and payment free" credit card through the use of deceptive and misleading advertising devices as described herein; (3) directing Defendants to disgorge, for the benefit of Class Members, their profits and compensation emanating from their "interest and payment free" scheme, and/or make full restitution to Plaintiff and Class Members; and (4) enjoining Defendant Chase Bank from prioritizing the application of consumers' credit card payments to Promotional Purchases. Plaintiff also seeks any other relief the Court deems acceptable, in accordance with section 17203 of the Business and Professions Code. Plaintiff also seeks costs of litigation, attorneys' fees pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure §1021.5, and such other relief as the Court deems proper.

(Against All Defendants)

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47. Plaintiff incorporates by reference paragraphs 1 - 46 above as though fully set forth
a.
48. The standardized advertising and written and oral promotional material and all other

- 48. The standardized advertising and written and oral promotional material and all other written and oral promotional efforts undertaken by Defendants constitute advertising services and commercial statements, disseminated by Defendants, which contained statements that are untrue and/or misleading, or which omitted material information, and which are known, or by the exercise of reasonable care should have been known by Defendants to be deceptive, in violation of California Business and Professions Code section 17500, et seq. and other similar state false advertising statutes. Plaintiff and Class Members are accordingly entitled to equitable and injunctive relief, on behalf of themselves and all others similarly situated, and request the following equitable and injunctive relief:
 - (a) That Defendants be ordered to cease and desist all advertising, promotional and sales activities and practices described herein;
 - (b) That Defendants be enjoined from the promotion of its "interest and payment free" credit card through the use of deceptive and misleading advertising devices as described herein;
 - (c) That Defendants be ordered to disgorge, for the benefit of Class Members, their profits and compensation emanating from its "interest and payment free" scheme, and/or make full restitution to Plaintiff and Class Members.
 - (d) That Defendant Chase Bank be enjoined from prioritizing the application of consumers' credit card payments to Promotional Purchases.

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FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION

(Fraud and Deceit)

(Against All Defendants)

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herein.

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Plaintiff incorporates by reference paragraphs 1 - 48 above as though fully set forth

- 50. At various times, as set forth in this Complaint, Defendants made material and intentional misrepresentations and false promises to Plaintiff, and others similarly situated while fraudulently concealing other material facts from Plaintiff. The material, fraudulent misrepresentations, false promises, and fraudulent omissions include, but are not limited to, the following:
 - (a) Uniform, written solicitations to consumers, which solicitations uniformly promised that certain promotional purchases made at Circuit City using the Circuit City Rewards Card in excess of \$250 would receive an interest and payment free period in which to payoff their purchase;
 - (b) Uniform failure to disclose in Defendants' written solicitations to consumers that Defendant Chase Bank would actually charge a finance charge even when customers paid their prior balance in full, or would otherwise charge a finance charge on any remaining balance without first deducting any partial Payment made;
 - (c) Failure to clearly and adequately disclose that Chase Bank would allocate Payments to Promotional Purchases, even if no payments were due for many months, thus causing customers who believed they were paying their current balances to actually incur excessive finance charges.
- 51. While Defendants were making the enumerated, material fraudulent and deceitful misrepresentations and omissions, they knew the true facts to be the opposite thereof.
- 52. Defendants knew that each of these enumerated, material misrepresentations and omissions were deceitful and fraudulent at the time that they were made, or, at the minimum, made the fraudulent misrepresentations and omissions with a reckless disregard for the true facts.
 - 53. Defendants made its material fraudulent misrepresentation and fraudulently

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concealed material information for the primary purposes of inducing Plaintiff and others similarly situated to enter into a Circuit City Promotional Purchase using the Circuit City Rewards Card. Specifically, Defendants purposefully and fraudulently concealed that Promotional Purchases were given priority of payment, even if not yet billed and owing, thus making the promise of "interest and payment free" illusory.

- 54. Plaintiff and other Class Members were unaware of the true facts that were concealed by Defendants' material fraudulent misrepresentations and omissions, consummated the proposed Promotional Purchase, having no reason to suspect that the transactions were predicated upon such material, described and fraudulent misrepresentations and omissions.
- 55. As a direct and proximate result of the events and material, described and fraudulent misrepresentations described herein, Plaintiff and other Class Members have been damaged as may be shown according to proof at the time of trial.
- 56. In doing the acts herein alleged, Defendants acted with malice, oppression, and fraud in order to induce Plaintiff and Class Members into making Circuit City purchases with the Circuit City Rewards Card pursuant to which Defendants would profit from the collection of undisclosed fees. Such despicable conduct, in willful and conscious disregard of Plaintiff's rights, justifies an award of exemplary damages against these Defendants in amounts as may be shown in according to proof at the time of trial.

FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION

(Breach of Contract)

(Against Defendant Chase Bank and Does 1 - 50)

- 57. Plaintiff incorporates by reference paragraphs 1 56 above as though fully set forth herein.
- 58. Defendant Chase Bank offered Plaintiff and Class Members a no interest, no payment grace period on Promotional Purchases made using their Circuit City Rewards Card.
- 59. Plaintiff and Class Members made Promotional Purchases as offered by Defendant Chase Bank.

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COMPLAINT

- 60. Defendant Chase Bank breached these contracts by prioritizing the allocation of credit card Payments to purchases offered and accepted as interest and payment free ahead of non-promotional items appearing on the monthly statement. Defendant Chase Bank further breached these contracts by charging an interest fee on balances that remained due to this allocation of Payments.
- 61. By reason of Defendants' breach of Plaintiff's and other Class Members' respective contracts, Plaintiff's and other Class Members have been damaged in the manner set forth herein, in an amount to be determined at trial.

SIXTH CAUSE OF ACTION

(Breach of the Implied Covenant of Good Faith and Fair Dealing)
(Against Defendant Chase Bank and Does 1 - 50)

- 62. Plaintiff incorporates by reference paragraphs 1 61 above as though fully set forth herein.
- 63. Every contract imposes upon each party a duty of good faith and fair dealing in its performance. The Promotional Purchases made by Plaintiff and Class Members with their Circuit City Rewards Card contained an implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing. The covenant requires that neither party to the Promotional Purchase agreement do anything to infringe upon the other party's rights to the benefits of the agreement.
- 64. Defendant Chase Bank's conduct, as set forth herein, has breached each of the implied covenants of good faith and fair dealing.
- 65. For example, Defendant Chase Bank has materially breached the implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing by:
 - (a) Promising purchasers of Circuit City Promotional Purchases they would receive a payment free period in which to payoff their purchase, when, in fact, Defendant Chase Bank prioritized the allocation of Payments to Promotional Purchases;
 - (b) Promising purchasers of Circuit City Promotional Purchases they would receive an interest free period in which to payoff their purchase, when, in fact, Defendant

COMPLAINT

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Chase Bank charged interest fees in connection with Promotional Purchases.

66. As a direct result of material breaches of the implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing by Defendants, as set forth herein, Plaintiffs have been damaged as may be shown according to proof at the time of trial.

SEVENTH CAUSE OF ACTION

(For Unjust Enrichment)

(Against Defendant Chase Bank and Does 1-50)

- 67. Plaintiff incorporates by reference paragraphs 1 66 above as though fully set forth herein.
- 68. As set forth fully herein, Defendants were not and are not entitled to a finance fee in connection with Promotional Purchases,
- 69. Thus, Defendants have retained and continue to retain money belonging to Plaintiff and the Class Members.
- 70. If Defendants are permitted to retain this money, they will be unjustly enriched at the Plaintiffs' expense.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, on Plaintiff's own behalf and on behalf of the Class Members, prays for judgment as follows:

- 1. For an order certifying the Plaintiff Class and appointing Plaintiff and his counsel to represent the Class;
- For an order awarding compensatory damages in an amount which may be proven at trial, together with interest thereon;
- 3. For an order awarding restitution and/or disgorgement and other equitable relief as the Court deems proper;
 - For an order awarding exemplary damages in an amount to deter and punish;
- 5. For an order awarding pre-judgment and post-judgment interest, as well as their reasonable attorneys' and experts' witness fees and other costs;

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reasonable attorneys' and experts' witness fees and other costs; For an order enjoining Defendants from continuing to engage in unfair business 2 practices and false advertising; and, 3 For an order awarding such other and further relief as this Court may deem just and 5 proper. б ROXBOROUGH, POMERANCE & NYE LLP DATED: June 26, 2006 8. 9 DREW E. POMERANCE MICHAEL G. KLINE 10 ERIN M. LaBRACHE 11 Attorneys for Plaintiff GARY DAVIS, individually and on behalf of himself, and as Private Attorney General and on behalf of 12 all others similarly situated 13 14 . 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 18

COMPLAINT

Exhibit A



itore Associate: Please scan the parcode for the 90 Day/\$299 offer



It's easy to take advantage of this offer!

When you make a purchase with your Circuit City credit card, present this certificate to the store associate to scan.

**Others apoly at in-tron purchases charged by your Clearly City modit card account and are subject to cricial approval. For any item 3/55 and above, to assist hence charges, the punchase price must be paid in fail shife 150 days of the purchase date of on the 151st day from the punchase date, fearing charges will be assessed at the Deferred? Accomplished France Charge APR Score that date of purchase, For any signs 2559 and above, to swife finance charges, the purchase date, from the control of the purchase date, and the purchase date, ship purchase date of the purchase date, ship purchase date, and the purchase date of the purchase date of the purchase date, ship purchase date, and the purchase date of the purchase date of the purchase date, and the purchase date of the date of the date of the purchase date of the purchase date of the date of the p

Store Associate: Please scan this bercode for the 8 Month/\$499 offer

EXH A





€CHECK TO:

- MO117867

CHASE CARDMEMBER SERVICE PO BOX 100044 KENNESAW, GA 30156-9244

latterfferettereleterleletlerettlererettlerettler CHASE CARDMEMBER SERVICE PO BOX 94010 PALATINE, IL 60094-4010

Holasticerrolater linetelle entelene Helebere febelle belevel GARY J DAVIS 3126 ROBERTS AVE CULVER CITY CA 90232-7415

4104 1400 1493 4038 NEW BALANCE \$2 752.68 03/10/06 PAYMENT DUE DATE MINIMUM PAYMENT DUE \$110.00

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO CHASE

AMOUNT ENCLOSED

NCE SUMMARY

rus Batanca \$1,495,99 \$1,781.13 \$0.00 \$2,955.45 ayments and Credits ash Advances urchases/Adjustments NANCE CHARGES \$82.37

ACCOUNT INFORMATION

Statement Closing Date 02/13/06 Days in Billing Cycle New Salance 31 \$2,752.68 \$6,000.00 \$3,247.32 \$1,800.00 Credit Line Available Credit Available Cash Advance**

ACCOUNT# 4104140014934039 Payment Due Date 03/10/08 MINIMUM PAYMENT DUE \$110.00

CALL 1-868-522-7587 TO MAKE YOUR PAYMENT OVER THE PHONE OR VISITUS ONLINE AT WWW.CIRCUITCITYREWARDS.COM

ISACTION DETAIL

Ingi -	Transaction Date	Reference Number	Transactions	Charges & Credits •
6	01/12	6013275171011037	SOUPLANTATION NIT LOS ANGELES CA	11:24
8	01/12	6013349544161698	ralphs 10284 SF4 Culver City Ca	7:80
6	01/14	0397718004897000	CIRCUIT CITY PURCHASE 121 30" AND LARGER TV'S	933,53
6	01/14	6015730150275538	ROLL NIRYE CULVER CITY CA	13.78
8	-01/14	6015070214459019	CARY PHOTO LAB CULVER CITY CA	23.59
7	01/16	70830000000000000	CIRCUIT CITY PURCHASE 396 COMPUTER MEDIA 077 DVD SOFTWARE	5.51
7	01/15	6016118000100172	EAST WIND 4 CULVER CITY CA	19,54
7	01/16	6016020000433553	SUBWAY SANOWICHES # LOS ANGELES CA	5.39
3	01/18	6017207599700305	BURGER KING # 9218 Q07 LOS ANGELES CA	2.48
3	01/16	8017749054440174	RITE AID STORE 5144 LOS ANGELES CA	3.91
à	91/10	6018138019801123	EL POLLO LOCO 3301 LOS ANGELES CA	7.65
)	01/19	6019882656290191 .	LA TIMES SUB" 1378846016, 800-528-4537 CA	107.03
j	01/18	6019018000632878	BUFFET CITY LOS ANGELES CA	14,60
٥	01/18	6019690192691108	SWART & FINAL CO. WEST LOS ANGECA	17,21
		6020117724010040	DOMINO'S PIZZA #08308 LOS ANGELES CA	27.71
3 4 5	01/20	6023023286891108	SAT PROS " 628-5992222 CA "	420.00
5	01/24	6025002403499443	5 DE MAYO TACOS CULVER CITY CA	6.77
3	01/25	7675300006000000	CIRCUIT CITY PURCHASE 395 COMPUTER MEDIA	1.62
5	01/25	21308000000000000	CIRCUIT CITY PURCHASE 142 DIGITAL VIDEO	82.24
3	01/25	6025000139810579	HHF*ONECALLELECTRONICS 800-340-4778 WA	284,02
,	/01/25	8026710009432154	DENNYSING GULVER CITY CA	7,48
١	01/25	6026360143699162	OFFICE DEPOT #951 CULVER CITY CA	34.64
,	.01/25	6026701056620484	HUS SZECHWAN 310-8370252 CA	30.90
Ď.	£91/27	6028130283159484	NEW PANDA BUFFET LOS ANGELES CA	20.53

EXPLANATION OF CODES ON REVERSE LABLE CASH ADVANCE IS RECLUDED IN AVAILABLE CREDIT LIMIT REVIATIONS: "Dyf" = Payment, "of" = Credit

MAIL BILLING AND OTHER INCURRES TO: CHASE CAROMEMBER SERVICE PO BOX 100045 KENNESAW, GA 30158-9245 See form on reverse side.

CHASE

EXH B

VISA

021306 Statemen

Customer Name GARY J DAVIS Account Number 4104-1400-1493-4039

Page 3 of 3

Payment Tips

Call 1-366-322-7587 to make your payment over the phone! (A small fee will apply.)
Mail your payment 7-10 days in advance of your payment due date to allow for mail delivery.
Checks should be made payable to Cipes.
Write your account number on your check or maney order.
Include the payment couper wite your payment in the servelops provided,
Written correspondence should be sent to:

CHASE CARDMEMBER SERVICE PO BOX 100044 KENNESAW, GA 30156-9244

As a Valued Cardmember, you can claim high-quality merchandise from top brands such as Lenox, Harley-Davidson, Cross and many more! Just go to www.rewardcenter.com and enter 157511 where it asks for your certificate number. These products are not available to the general public, so act now!

Redeem your rewards points today and use your Rewards Certificates towards your next purchase at Circuit City. For every 500 points you earn, you'll receive a \$5 Rewards Certificate. Just visit circuitcityrewards.com anytime to check your point balance and redeem for Rewards Certificates.

REWARDS POINTS SUMMARY

Your Circuit City Rewards ID Number is 70021534100

The number of Rewards Points you have earned (through 02/13/2006) 53,171

The total number of Rewards Points that are available for you to redeem

The number of Rewards Points that are pending in your account

472

1,699

FINANCE CHARGE SUMMARY

*	Average Daily Belanca	Daily Periodic Rate	Corresponding Annual Bercenlage Rate	Periodic Finance - Charge		
Purchases A	52,312,92	0.0652%	23.79%	\$46.74	24.26%	SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR
Purchases 8	\$1,781.92	0.0645%	23.54%	\$35.63] 1	HIPORTANT INFORMATION
Cash Advances C	- •	0.0781%	27.79%	\$0.00	ACTORNOLOGICA	

· PERICOIC RETE MAY VARY FROM MONTH TO MONTH

REE EXPLANATION OF CODES ON REVERSE
INALIABLE CASH ADVANCE IS INCLUDED IN AVAILABLE CREDIT LIMIT
UBBREVIATIONS—194" = Poyment, "at" = Oxed.

For 78 how automitated information and 1-865-572-7587

Sustainer Survive Advances are available Monday - Friday 10am - 9pm ET

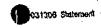
for report your credit card lost or stolen 24 hours a day cad (838) 492-4142

for T.D.D. (Telephone Device for the Hearby Impaired), aux (809) 875-1794

MAIL BULING AND OTHER MEMARIES TO: CHASE CARDMEMBER SERVICE PO BOX 100045 REINEBANN, GA 30156-9245 See form on reverse side.

CHASE O





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CHASE CARDMEMBER SERVICE PO BOX 100044 KENNBSAW, GA 30156-9244

lelleriterillicatelelerlitererilliceriisel CHASE CARDMEDBER SERVICE PO BOX 94010 PALATINE, IL 60094-4010

Helyellenechsladlerslottersleitersleislichtersleisleitersleisl GARY J DAVIS 3125 ROBERTS AVE CULVER CITY CA 90232-7415

4104 1400 1493 4039 ACCOUNT # \$4,497,57 NEW BALANCE 04/07/08 PAYMENT DUE DATE MINIMUM PAYMENT DUE \$119.00

> make checks payable to chase AMOUNT ENCLOSED

please indicate any change to address or telephone below or visit www.circustcity.rewards.com Home Tolephone

ALANCE SUMMARY.

\$2,752.68 evious Salance \$2,752.68 Payments and Credits Cash Advances \$0.00 \$4,420.32 \$77,25 Purchases/Adjustments FINANCE CHARGES New Betance \$4,497.57

ACCOUNT INFORMATION

Statement Closing Date 90/21/20 Days in Bliling Cycle \$4,497,57 \$6,000.00 New Balance Credit Line \$1,502.43 Available Credit \$1,502.43 Available Cost Advance**

ACCOUNT# 4104140014934039 Payment Due Date 04/07/06 MINIMUM PAYMENT DUE \$1 19:00

CALL 1-866-522-7587 TO MAKE YOUR PAYMENT OVER THE PHONE OR

PROMOTIONAL SUMMARY

Average tstending Daily Balance

Delarred Delly Average Delly Periodic Balance Rate Corresponding Annual Percentage Rate

Periodic Accumulated Promotion FINANCE Deferred Payoff CHARGE Finance Charges Balance

Promotonal Promotional Ending Date

CEP 22 MOS NIVYP

\$218.00 0.06579

23,99%

\$283.09 01/14/2008

ir account balance may contain purchases that require a minibul monthly IR ACCOUNT BALANCE MAY CONTAIN PURCHASES THAT REQUIDE A MINICIPAL MONITAIN THEN BY THE DUE DATE ON THE STATEMENT. PLEASE REFER TO THE MINIMUM MEANT DUE FOR THAT AMOUNT. ACCOMBILATED DEFERRED FINANCE CHARGES WILL BE VIEW FOUR PROMOTIONAL BALANCE(S) IS PAID IN FULL BY THE PROMOTIONAL HIND DATE SHOWN IN THE PROMOTIONAL SUMMARY SECTION. THE PROMOTIONAL END B MAY DIFFER FROM YOUR DUE DATE.

ANSACTION DETAIL

sting le	Transaction Dex	Reference Number	Trensactors	Charges & Credis +
			Purchases	
14 14 15 15 15 20 20 20 21 12	62/13 62/12 62/13 62/13 62/14 70/15 10/16 62/16 70/18 70/18 70/18	6044296110635675 6044890441473768 6044980003841934 6045207586700376 6046980002975183 6047585316218229 604698000299278 605049000299278 605049000299278 6050491811192677 6051295111972634 486960000000000	BEST BLY DOCO3939 W HOLLYMOOD CA SMART & FINAL CO. WEST LOS ANGECA ASIAN KITCHEN CULVER CITY CA BURGER KING # 9218 QOT LOS ANGELES CA CULXNO'S VERKICE & ROBERTSCULVER CITY CA PIZZA HUT BY BOOK BOOK BOOK BOOK BOOK BOOK BOOK B	1,765,98 17.21 9.71 3.78 7.35 14.60 13.89 18.76 12.75 8.66 82.240

EXPLINATION OF CODES ON REVERSE exponention of codes on reverse Lable Cash Advance is included in available credit limit reviations: """ " """""" "" "" "" "" "" "" "" """ refer to interest precal purchases on reverse. MAIL BILLING AND OTHER INCURRIES TO: CHASE CARDMEMBER SERVICE PO 80X 100045 KSHIESAN, QA 30150-9245 See form on revers side.

HACEO





Gustomer Name GARY J DAVIS - Account Number 4104-1400-1493-4039

Page 2 of 3

Payment Tips

The 1-866-522-7587 to make your payment over the phone! (A mull fee will apply.)
Stail your payment 7-16 days in advance of your payment due date to allow for mail delivery.
Checks should be made payable to Chase.
Write your secount number our your check or mousy order.
Include the payment coupon with your payment in the envelope provided.
Writen correspondence should be sent to:

CHASE CARDMEMBER SERVICE PO BOX 100044 KENNESAW, OA 30156-9244

Posting Date	Transaction Date	Reference Number	Transactions	Credia ◆
02/22	02/20	605211800C100573	WOR ON FIRE INC LOS ANGELES CA	26.17
02/22	05/20	8052383117291564	Compusation Guys #740 Los angeles ca	161.54
02/22	02/20	6052207599700368	Burger King # 9218 CO7 LOS ANGELES CA	2.48
02/23	02/21	6053384323115341	KFC 2610052 26100529 CULVER CITY CA	4.85
02/23	02/21	4989899004897000	CIRCUIT CITY CREDIT PURCHASE	933, 5 3cr
		•	121-30" AND LARGER TV 5	1
02/24	02/23	6054000594427855	TWX PWROSE WAGAZNE PEH 877-813-0001 NY	2.00
02/24	02/23	8055470096300020	Tabte of undia - C. Culiver City Ca	14.27
02/27	02/22	6055138011473500	EZ NEW WEB LAUNDROMAT CULVER CITY CA	5.45
02/27	02/23	6055590551481334	SMART & FINAL CO. WEST LOS ANGECA	42.10
32/27	02/24	6056286299850196	PAPA JOHN'S PIZZA #2380 LOS ANGELES CA	19.73
32/27	02/24	6056238299800476	PAPA JOHN'S PIZZA #2380 LOS ANGELES CA	2,00
32/28	02/26	6058101912692422	IHCP 1782 LOS ANGELES CA	:12,07
72/28	02/27	6058123365012788	GABYS MEDITERRANEAN R LAS ANGELES CA	. 17,70
23/01	02/27	6059783000102064	JITS NO293 00002931 LOS ANGELES CA	.2.15
73/01	02/27	8059701066620476	Hus Szechwan Los Angeles Ca	22.64
13/01	02/27	6059207599700437	Burger king #9218 Cot Los Angeles ca.	. 2.48 .
13/03	03/02	6061000257186393	XM *SATELLITE RADIO \$60-XMRADIO OC	19.84
13/08	03/03	0211022004959000	CIRCUIT CITY PURCHASE	2,000.00
			126 PLASMA TV	•
		-	127 MOUNTS	•
3/09	03/07	6067197310661034	PANCA EXPRESS 00008189 CULVER CITY CA	. 6.92
3/09	03/07	6007396799783853	RALPHS #0086 SF4 CULVER CITY CA	29.43
3/10	03/07	6069442545100024	INDUSTRY CAFE AND CULVER CITY CA	9.75
3/10	03/09	6089293015400299	KRISTINA SITALIAN LOS ANGELES CA	16.27
3/13	03/09	6069398348919784	AUTOZONE #6433 LOS ANGELES CA	4,32
3/13	03/10	8069398535629664	RALPHS MODES SF4: GULVER CITY CA	3.85
3/13	03/10	6069200078900237	20/20 VICEO #12 LOS ANGELES CA	12.99
3/13	03/10	6070295111993272	BEST BUY 00001792 CULVER CITY CA	39.05
3/13	03/10	6070295111993322	REST BUY 00001792 CULVER CITY CA	40.55
W13	03/10	6070116340010813	Baiafresh 10142 Culver City Ca	7.63
¥13	03/11	6071503108450066	BESTBUYCOM 88994009 888-BESTBUY MN	20.54
1413	03/12	6072120726208791	new panda buffet Los angeles ca	10,80
V13	03/13		Purchase "Finance Charge"	77.25
	•		Payments/Credits	
108	03/04	8065001000000010	ONLINE PMT RCVD-THANK YOU	1.006.00py
/07	03/06	6066001000000019	ONLINE PMT RCVO-THANK YOU	730.9107

IPORTANT INFORMATION

attention** τ_i r account 13-in dispute for 13%.10, this amount has not seen included in the finance charge or minimum payment sulations. t_i

explanation of codes on reverse hable cash apparate is inclided in available credit limit revaltions: "19" = "Painael" of "Otax refer to interest free special purchases on reverse. ual billing and other incriries to: Chase Cardnember Service PO BOX 100045 XEMESAW, OA 20150-9245

THASE O

Customer Name GARY J DAVIS Account Number 4104-1400-1493-4038

Page 3 of 3

Payment Tips

Cull 1-866-722-7587 to make your payment over the phonet (A small fee will apply,) Mail your payment —1-10 days in advance of your payment due date to allow for mail defivery. Checks should be made payable to Cluse. While your account number on your check of money order, include the payment coupon with your payment in the savelope provided.

Written correspondence should be sent to:

CHASE CARDMEMBER SERVICE PO BOX 100044 KENNESAW, GA 30156-9244

Use your Circuit City credit card and take advantage of special financing promotions available at your local Circuit City stores!

As a Valued Cardmember, you can claim high-quality merchandise from top brands such as Lenox, Harley-Davidson, Cross and many morel Just go to www.rewardcenter.com and enter 157511 where it asks for your certificate number. These products are not available to the general public, so act now!

Redeem your rewards points today and use your Rewards Certificates towards your next purchase at Circuit City. For every 500 points you earn, you'll receive a \$5 Rewards Certificate. Just visit circuit; ityrewards.com anytime to check your point balance and redeem for Rewards Certificates.

REWARDS POINTS SUMMARY

Your Circuit City Rewards 10 Number is 70021534100

The number of Rewards Points you have earned (tryough 03/10/2006)

50,421

The total number of Rewards Points that are available for you to redeem

1,790

The number of Rewards Points that are pending in your account

-2,369

INANCE CHARGE SUMMARY

*	Average Daily Balence	Daily Periodic Rate	Corresponding Annual Percentago Rate	Periods FINANCE CHARGE	Annual Percentage Rate	
Purchases A	\$4,232.35	0.0652%	23.79%	\$77.25	22.45%	SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR
Purchases B	\$0.00	0.0652%	23.79%	\$0.00		IMPORTANT INFORMATION
- Cash Advignoss C	\$0.00	0.0751%	27.79%	\$0,00		
			•		CONCRETE OF SERVICE AND PROPERTY.	5

PERIODIC RATE MAY VARY FROM MONTH TO MONTH

E EXPLINATION OF CODES ON REVERSE

LLABLE CASH ADJANCE IS INCLIDED IN AVAILABLE CREDIT LIMIT

SREVIATIONS: "Py" Primers, "O" "Crede

2 how successfully control of 21-886-5227-597

LOTHER SENDED ADJANCE IN THE EVALUATION OF FROM 10 MM - 0 DM ET

TOOM YEAR OF CONTROL OF TROING 24 hours a day on 1685) 598-5142

T.O.D. (Telephone Device for the Hearty (Imprired), cal (600) 925-1744

REFER TO INTEREST FREE SPECIAL PURCHASES ON REVERSE.

Mail Bilung and other McLiries to; Chase Cardnevber Service: PO Box 100045 FO Box 100045 See form of Peneral Scie.

-under #

Exhibit 2

Case 08-35653-KRH Doc 13532-1 Filed 12/18/14 Entered 12/18/14 16:55:42 Desc Exhibit(s) Part 1 Page 32 of 75

STROOCK & STROOCK & LAVAN LLP
JULIA B. STRICKLAND (State Bar No. 83013)
STEPHEN J. NEWMAN (State Bar No. 181570)
DAVID W. MOON (State Bar No. 197711)
NANCY M. LEE (State Bar No. 232708)
2029 Century Park East, Suite 1800
Los Angeles, California 90067-3086
Telephone: 310-556-5800
Facsimile: 310-556-5959
Email: lacalendar@stroock.com 3 4 5 Email: lacalendar@stroock.com 6 Attorneys for Defendant CHASE BANK USA, N.A. 7 8 ATTORNEY AT LAW Peter E. Glick, Esq. (State Bar No. 127979) 400 Capitol Mall, Suite 1100 Sacramento, CA 95814 Telephone: 916-558-6182 Facsimile: 916-448-2434 10 Email: pglick@pglick.com 11 12 Attorney for Defendant CIRCUIT CITY STORES, INC. 13 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 14 CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA 15 GARY DAVIS, an individual, on behalf) of himself, and as PRIVATE Case No. 16 ATTORNEY GENERAL, and on behalf 17 NOTICE OF REMOVAL of all others similarly situated 18 Plaintiff, 19 20 CHASE BANK U.S.A., N.A., a Delaware corporation; CIRCUIT CITY 21 STORES, INC., a Virginia corporation; and DOES 1 through 50, inclusive, 22 23 Defendants. 24 25 26 27 28

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9805-7906 18

2029 Century Park East, Suite 1800 18 California S 18

STROOCK & STROOCK & LAVAN LLP

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TO THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331, 1332, 1367, 1441, 1446, 1453 and the Class Action Fairness Act of 2005 ("CAFA"), Pub. L. 109-2, § 1(a), 119 Stat. 4 (Feb. 18, 2005) (codified as amended in scattered sections of 28 U.S.C.), defendants Chase Bank USA, N.A. ("Chase") and Circuit City Stores, Inc. ("Circuit City") (together, "Defendants"), hereby remove the action entitled Gary Davis v. Chase Bank U.S.A., N.A., et al., Los Angeles County Superior Court Case No. BC354564 (the "Action"), to the United States District Court for the Central District of California, on the following grounds:

The Removal Is Timely

Plaintiff Gary Davis ("Plaintiff") served the Summons and Complaint in 1. the Action on the Defendants on July 3, 2006. The Complaint was the first pleading received by Defendants, through service or otherwise, setting forth the claim for relief upon which the Action is based. This Notice of Removal has been filed within the thirty-day timeframe and is therefore timely under 28 U.S.C. § 1446(b). A true and correct copy of the Complaint in this Action is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

This Court Has Removal Jurisdiction Under CAFA

- This Court has original jurisdiction over this Action pursuant to 28 2. U.S.C. § 1332(d), and hence this Action is properly removable pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1453(b), because:
- Diversity of citizenship exists. Under CAFA, diversity is satisfied when "any member of a class of plaintiffs is a citizen of a State different from any defendant . . . " 28 U.S.C. § 1332(d)(2)(A). Chase is a national bank located in Delaware and therefore is a citizen of Delaware. See 28 U.S.C. § 1348 (national bank is a citizen of the state in which it is "located"); Wachovia Bank, N.A. v. Schmidt, III, 126 S. Ct. 941, 952, 163 L. Ed. 2d 797 (2006) (holding that a national bank is "located," for diversity jurisdiction purposes, in the state designated

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in its articles of association as its main office). Circuit City is a Virginia corporation	01
with its principal place of business in Richmond, Virginia, and therefore is a citize	en
of Virginia. Plaintiff is a resident of Los Angeles, California, and a citizen of	
California. (Compl. ¶ 2.)	

This Action is a "class action." A "class action," as defined by CAFA, is "any civil action filed under rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure or similar state statute or rule of judicial procedure authorizing an action to be brought by 1 or more representative persons as a class action." 28 U.S.C. §§ 1332(d)(1)(B), 1453(a). Plaintiff alleges that the Action is brought on behalf of a putative class consisting of:

> All persons who, in the past four years, used their Circuit City Rewards Card to

- (a) make a Promotional Purchase in California;
- (b) had made the minimum payment, or greater payment on their prior statement closing balance ("Payment"); and
- (c) were assessed a finance charge on their prior balance without Chase having applied that Payment to their prior balance because Chase Bank applied the payment to the Promotional Purchase rather than to the prior balance.

(Compl. ¶ 11.) Class actions are permitted under California law pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure section 382 and California Civil Code section 1781.

The amount in controversy is satisfied. The amount in controversy under CAFA is satisfied "if the matter in controversy exceeds the sum or value of \$5,000,000, exclusive of interest and costs." 28 U.S.C. § 1332(d)(2). For purposes of determining the amount in controversy in class actions, CAFA expressly requires that "the claims of the individual members shall be aggregated . . ." 28 U.S.C. § 1332(d)(6). Plaintiff claims that Chase improperly applied his payment to a

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promotional balance rather than to his regular balance, resulting in \$77.25 in additional finance charges in March 2006. (Compl. ¶ 25.) Plaintiff claims to have been improperly billed additional finance charges in unstated amounts "on at least two (2) other occasions." (Id. ¶ 27.) Plaintiff alleges that Defendants improperly billed additional finance charges to other class members "in a manner similar, or identical to that of Plaintiff." (Id.) Plaintiff seeks, among other things: (1) compensatory damages (in the amount of the alleged improperly billed finance charges); (2) restitution and disgorgement (of these and other amounts); (3) punitive damages; and (4) an injunction prohibiting Chase from prioritizing the application of payments to promotional balances (thus precluding Chase from collecting the finance charges at issue on all future accounts). (Compl. ¶¶ 45-46, 48, 55-56, 61, 66, 68-70.) Aggregating the claims of Plaintiff and the putative class, the amount in controversy exceeds the sum or value of \$5,000,000. See 28 U.S.C. § 1332(d)(6); see also Hunt v. Washington State Apple Advertising Comm'n, 432 U.S. 333, 347, 97 S. Ct. 2434, 53 L. Ed. 2d 383 (1977) ("In actions seeking declaratory or injunctive relief, it is well established that the amount in controversy is measured by the value of the object of the litigation.") (citations omitted); Simmons v. PCR Technology, 209 F. Supp. 2d 1029, 1033 (N.D. Cal. 2002) (holding that the amount in controversy may include punitive damages).

Removal By Chase and Circuit City Is Proper

3. CAFA allows for the removal of class actions to federal court in accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 1446, "except that such action may be removed by any defendant without the consent of all defendants." 28 U.S.C. § 1453(b). Accordingly, Chase and Circuit City are permitted to file this Notice of Removal without the joinder or consent of any other defendant. Nevertheless, all known defendants have joined in this removal.

- 3 -

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1	Notice Has Been Effected
2	4. A copy of this Notice of Removal is being concurrently filed with the
3	Superior Court of the State of California for the County of Los Angeles and
4	concurrently served on all counsel of record.
5	Dated: August 1, 2006 STROOCK & STROOCK & LAVAN LLP
6	STEPHEN J. NEWMAN
7	NANCY M. LEE
8	
9	By: Andhillon
10	David W. Moon
11	Attorneys for Defendant CHASE BANK USA, N.A.
12	
ļ	Dated: August 1, 2006 ATTORNEY AT LAW
.	PETER E. GLICK, ESQ.
- 1	
10	By: Leter Hick Shin by permission
18	Peter E. Glick
-	Attorney for Defendant CIRCUIT CITY STORES, INC.
- 1	
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	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27

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EXHIBIT B

Case 08-35653-KRH Doc 13532-1 Filed 12/18/14 Entered 12/18/14 16:55:42 Desc Exhibit(s) Part 1 Page 38 of 75 Desc Main Document Page 1 of 6

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY	COURT EASTERN DISTRIC	CT OF VIRGINIA			AMENDED PROOF OF CLAIM
Name of Debtor: Circuit City Stores, Inc.		Case Number: 08-35653			COURT USE ONLY
NOTE: Do not use this form to make a class	im for an administrative expense the	hat arises after the be	ankruptcy filing.	You	
May file a request for payment of Name of Creditor (the person or other entity Chase Bank USA, N.A.	of an administrative expense accord y to whom the debtor owes money	or property):	03.		Check this box if this claim amends a previously filed claim.
Name and address where notices should be Frank A. Merola, Esq. Stephen J. Newman, Esq. Stroock & Stroock & Lavan LLP 2029 Century Park East 16th Floor Los Angeles, CA 90067	sent:				Court Claim Number:7065 (If known)
Telephone number: 310-556-5800		la@stroock.com nan@stroock.com			Filed on: 1/28/2009
Name and address where payment should be	pe sent (if different from above):				Check this box if you are aware that anyone else has filed a proof of claim relating to your claim. Attach copy of statement giving particulars.
Telephone number:	email:	myst a			
1. Amount of Claim as of Date Case F	Filed: \$7,152,232.29				
If all or part of the claim is secured, comple	ete item 4.				
If all or part of the claim is entitled to prior	rity, complete item 5.				
Check this box if the claim includes i	interest or other charges in addition	n to the principal amo	ount of the claim	. Attach a s	tatement that itemizes interest or charges.
2. Basis for Claim: (See instruction #2) See Attached	l Rider	1,000 mg -	- way		
3. Last four digits of any number by creditor identifies debtor:	which 3a. Debtor	may have scheduled	l account as:	3b.	Uniform Claim Identifier (optional):
	(See instruc	tion #3a)		(Se	ee instruction #3b)
4. Secured Claim (See instruction #4) Check the appropriate box if the claim is secured by a lien on property or a right of setoff, attach required redacted documents, and provide the requested information. Amount of arrearage and other charges, as of time the case was filed, included in secured claim if any:				f arrearage and other charges, as of the ase was filed, included in secured claim,	
Nature of property or right of setoff: Describe:	☐ Real Estate ☐ Moto	or Vehicle	her	~	
Value of Property:				Basis for	perfection:
	/ Mrind or M	Variable		Amount o	f Secured Claim:
Annual Interest Rate: 9 (when case was filed)	6 ☐ Fixed or ☐	y ariable		Amount U	Insecured:
5. Amount of Claim Entitled to Priority under 11 U.S.C. § 507(a). If any part of the claim falls into one of the following categories, check the box specifying the priority and state the amount. Domestic support					
	2				Amount entitled to priority:
Up to \$2,775* of deposits toward purchase, lease, or rental of property or services for personal, family, or household use – 11 U.S.C. § 507(a)(7).	Taxes or penalties own governmental units – 11 U.S.C. §		Oth Specify application paragraph of 11 U. S.C. § 50		
*Amounts are subject to adjustment on 4/6	01/16 and every 3 years thereafter	with respect to cases	commenced on	or after the	date of adjustment.

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6. Credits. The amount of all payments on this claim has been credited for the purpose of making this proof of claim. (See instruction #6)				
7. Documents: Attached are redacted copies of any documents that support the claim, such as promissory notes, purchase orders, invoices, itemized statements of running accounts, contracts, judgments, mortgages, security agreements, or, in the case of a claim based on an open-end or revolving consumer credit agreement, a statement providing the information required by FRBP 3001(c)(3)(A). If the claim is secured, box 4 has been completed, and redacted copies of documents providing evidence of perfection of a security interest are attached. If the claim is secured by the debtor's principal residence, the Mortgage Proof of Claim Attachment is being filed with this claim. (See instruction #7, and the definition of "redacted".)				
DO NOT SEND ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS. ATTACHED DOCUMENTS MAY BE DESTROYED AFTER SCANNING.				
If the documents are not available, please explain:				
8. Signature: (See instruction #8) Check the appropriate box. Lam the creditor's authorized.				
I am the creditor. I am the creditor's authorized agent. I am the creditor's authorized agent. I am the trustee, or the debtor, or their authorized agent. (See Bankruptcy Rule 3004.) I am a guarantor, surety, indorser, or other codebtor. (See Bankruptcy Rule 3004.)				
I declare under penalty of perjury that the information provided in this claim is true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information, and reasonable belief				
Print Name: Stephen Newman Title: Partner Company: Stroock & Stroock & Lavan LLP Stoock & Stroock & Lavan LLP (Signature) (Date)				
Company: Stroock & Stroock & Lavan LLP (Signature) (Date) Address and telephone number (if different from notice address above):				
Telephone number: email:				
Penalty for presenting fraudulent claim: Fine of up to \$500,000 or imprisonment for up to 5 years, or both. 18 U.S.C. §§ 152 and 3571.				

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UNITED STATES BA	ANKRUPTCY	COURT
EASTERN DISTRIC	T OF VIRGINA	A

In re:) Chapter 11
CIRCUIT CITY STORES, INC., et al.,) Case No. 08-35653 (KRH
Debtors.) Jointly Administered
))

RIDER TO AMENDED PROOF OF CLAIM OF CHASE BANK USA, N.A.

- 1. Chase Bank USA, N.A. ("Chase") submits this rider ("Rider") to its amended proof of claim (the "Amended Proof of Claim") against Circuit City Stores, Inc., et al. (the "Debtors" or "Circuit City"). This Rider is an addendum to and shall be deemed to be part of and incorporated by reference in the Amended Proof of Claim. The filing of this Amended Proof of Claim is without prejudice to, and is not intended to supersede the Initial Proof of Claim (as defined below).
- 2. On January 28, 2009, Chase timely and properly filed a proof of claim in these proceedings (the "<u>Initial Proof of Claim</u>"). As set forth in the Initial Proof of Claim, Chase reserved the right to amend the Initial Proof of Claim as necessary or appropriate. Except as expressly amended herein, the Initial Proof of Claim in its entirety remains in full force and effect.

BASIS FOR CLAIM

3. As provided in the Initial Proof of Claim, a complaint was filed on June 26, 2006 in the Superior Court of the State of California for the County of Los Angeles, Central District, in <u>Davis v. Chase Bank USA, N.A., et al.</u>, Case No. BC354564, and removed on August 1, 2006

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to United States District Court for the Central District of California (the "<u>District Court</u>"), Case No. CV06-4804 DDP (PJWx) (herein the "<u>Underlying Complaint</u>" or the "<u>Underlying Case</u>").

- 4. As provided in the Initial Proof of Claim, the Underlying Complaint centered on Circuit City and its advertising to its customers. The specific advertising challenged in the Underlying Complaint was produced by Circuit City and not by Chase. Both the Underlying Complaint and the District Court stated that Circuit City's advertising was at the core of the litigation the issue being whether Circuit City's advertising was misleading and deceptive.
- 5. On April 23, 2014, the plaintiff in the Underlying Case filed a motion for the preliminary approval of the Stipulation and Agreement of Settlement (the "Settlement Agreement"). The Settlement Agreement was attached as Exhibit 1 to the Declaration of Drew E. Pomerance in Support of Plaintiffs' Motion for Preliminary Approval of Settlement. A copy of the motion and declaration are attached hereto as Exhibits A and B, respectively. The District Court granted the preliminary approval of the Settlement Agreement on June 5, 2014. A copy of the preliminary approval order is attached hereto as Exhibit C. On October 27, 2014, the District Court granted the final approval of the Settlement Agreement. A copy of the Judgment and Amended Final Approval Order are attached hereto as Exhibits D and E, respectively.
- 6. Pursuant to the terms of the Settlement, Chase will pay a total of \$5,500,000 (the "Settlement Amount") in settlement of the claims in the Underlying Case. Additionally, Chase has incurred a total of \$36,688.92 in costs associated with defending the Underling Case and \$1,615,543.37 in legal fees. A copy of the Service and Expense Remittance Summary is attached as Exhibit F.¹

¹ Copies of the time entries associated with the applicable invoices are available upon written request.

- 7. Circuit City is required to indemnify Chase under, *inter alia*, Article X of a certain Consumer Credit Card Program Agreement by and between Circuit City Stores, Inc. and Bank One, Delaware, N.A. dated as of January 16, 2004.
- 8. Accordingly, Chase has valid claims for defense and indemnity against Circuit City for the Settlement Amount and the costs of defending the Underlying Case. Moreover, Circuit City has acknowledged Chase's indemnity claim, as reflected on Debtors' Schedule F filed on docket entry number 1130, page 149 of this bankruptcy.
- 9. To the extent any portion of this claim arises subsequent to the commencement of the Bankruptcy Case, such portion is entitled to administrative expense priority pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 507(a)(1). Chase asserts that those amounts are entitled to administrative priority.
- 10. To the extent this claim is neither secured nor entitled to priority status, Chase reserves and asserts a general unsecured claim in that amount.
 - 11. Additional information will be furnished by Chase upon reasonable request.

RESERVATION OF RIGHTS

- 12. No judgment has been entered against the Debtors on any of the claims asserted herein and no payment has been made on behalf of the claim subsequent to the Petition Date.
 - 13. This claim is not subject to any offsets or counterclaim.
- Claim in any respect, including, without limitation to include additional claims for reimbursement, set-off, damages, interest and/or costs and expenses, as appropriate. The filing of this Amended Proof of Claim shall not be deemed a waiver of any claim in law or in equity that Chase may have against the Debtors, its affiliates, or any other persons or entities.

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- 15. The filing of this claim is specifically made without any election of rights and remedies, and Chase hereby reserves all rights and remedies which it may have, in addition to the filing of and pursuit of this Amended Proof of Claim, against any other person or entity.
- 16. The execution and filing of this Amended Proof of Claim is not a waiver of any of Chase's rights against any person, entity or property including, without limitation, the right to move to withdraw the reference with respect to the subject matter of this claim or otherwise a waiver or release of Chase's right to have any and all final orders in any and all non-core matters or proceedings entered only after *de novo* review by a United States District Court Judge, and any right to trial by jury that Chase may have in any civil proceeding arising in or related to this case, nor is it a consent to jurisdiction of this or any court except with respect to the allowance of the claims asserted herein.

NOTICES

17. All notices concerning this Amended Proof of Claim should be sent to the following party at the addresses set forth below:

Stroock & Stroock & Lavan LLP Frank A. Merola, Esq. Stephen J. Newman, Esq. 2029 Century Park East 16th Floor Los Angeles, CA 90067 Case 08-35653-KRH Doc 13532-1 Filed 12/18/14 Entered 12/18/14 16:55:42 Desc Case 08-35653-KRH Claim 224-1 Part 2 Filed 12/12/14 Filed 12/12/14 Desc Exhibit(s) Page 1 of 129

EXHIBIT A

Motion for Preliminary Approval of Settlement

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Cas	GCASGOS-BAGGA-KKH-PUNAIM DECHIDETUS 32 of 1	129				
1	Drew E. Pomerance, Esq. (SBN. 101239)	, dep@rpnalaw.com				
2	Burton E. Falk, Esq. (SBN. 100644), bef@rpnalaw.com David R. Ginsburg, Esq. (SBN. 210900), drg@rpnalaw.com					
3	ROXBOROUGH, POMERANCE, NYE & ADREANI, LLP					
4	5820 Canoga Avenue, Suite 250					
5	Woodland Hills, California 91367 Telephone: (818) 992-9999					
6	Facsimile: (818) 992-9991					
7	[Additional Counsel Continued On Next]	Page]				
8						
9	Attorneys for Plaintiffs GARY DAVIS an GENE CASTILLO, individually,	Id				
10	as Private Attorney Generals, and on behalf					
11	of all others similarly situated					
12	ANNALDS CON A RESC.	DICTRICT COURT				
13	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA					
14	FOR THE CENTRAL DIS					
15	GARY DAVIS, an individual; on	Case No. CV 06 4804 DDP (PJWx)				
16	behalf of himself, and as PRIVATE ATTORNEY GENERAL, and on	Honorable Dean D. Pregerson				
17	behalf of all others similarly situated,	PLAINTIFFS' NOTICE OF				
18	Plaintiff,	MOTION AND MOTION FOR				
19	v.	PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF				
20	CHASE BANK U.S.A., N.A., a	SETTLEMENT; MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES				
21	Delaware corporation; and DOES 1	IN SUPPORT THEREOF				
22	through 50, inclusive,	[Declaration of Drew E. Pomerance				
23	Defendants.	and Attached Exhibits Filed				
24		Concurrently; [Proposed] Order Lodged Concurrently]				
25						
26		Date: June 2, 2014 Time: 10:00 a.m.				
27		Courtroom: 3				
28		_				

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	of 129	
1	Jeff Westerman, Esq. (SBN. 94559)	
2	jwesterman@jswlegal.com Jordanna G. Thigpen, Esq. (SBN. 232642)	
3	jthigpen@jswlegal.com	
4	WESTERMAN LAW CORP.	
	1925 Century Park East, Suite 2100	
5	Los Angeles, California 90067 Telephone: (310) 698-7450	
6	Facsimile: (310) 201-9160	
7		
8	Nicole Duckett Fricke, Esq. (SBN. 198168)	
9	ndfricke@milberg.com MILBERG, LLP	
10	One California Plaza	
11	300 South Grand Avenue, Suite 3900	
12	Los Angeles, California 90071 Telephone: (213) 617-1200	
	Facsimile: (213) 617-1200	
13		
14	Attorneys for Plaintiffs GARY DAVIS and	
15	GENE CASTILLO, individually,	
16	as Private Attorney Generals, and on behalf	
17	of all others similarly situated	
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	MOTION FOR PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF SETTLEMENT
	CASE NO. CV 06 4804 DDP (PJWx)

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on June 2, 2014 at 10:00 a.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard before the Honorable Dean D. Pregerson in Courtroom 3 of the above-entitled court, located at 312 North Spring Street, Los Angeles, California, Plaintiffs Gary Davis and Gene Castillo will move this Court for an order (1) granting preliminary approval of the settlement in this case, (2) provisionally certifying the class for settlement purposes, (3) approving the form and manner of notice to be provided to the proposed settlement class and directing that notice be given to the proposed settlement class, (4) appointing Plaintiffs as class representatives of the proposed settlement class, (5) confirming the appointment of Roxborough, Pomerance, Nye & Adreani LLP, Westerman Law Corp., and Milberg, LLP, as co-counsel for the proposed settlement class, and (6) scheduling a hearing for final approval of the proposed settlement.

Defendant Chase Bank U.S.A., N.A. (Chase) does not oppose this motion, which is being made following conferences between counsel over the last few months, pursuant to L.R. 7-3.

This motion is based on this notice and motion, the accompanying memorandum of points and authorities, the declaration of Drew E. Pomerance and documents attached thereto, all the matters of record filed with the Court, and such other evidence and argument as may be submitted to the Court.

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1	DATED: April 23, 2014 ROXBOR	ROUGH, POMERANCE, NYE & ADREANI, LLP
2	Bv: s/	Drew E. Pomerance
3	D	REW E. POMERANCE
4		SURTON E. FALK Attorneys for Plaintiffs GARY DAVIS and
5	G	SENE CASTILLO, individually,
6	as	s Private Attorney Generals, and on behalf fall others similarly situated
7		Tair officis similarly steamed
8	DATED A 1122 2014 Wester	RMAN LAW CORP.
9	DATED: April 23, 2014 WESTER	RIMAN LAW CORF.
10	11	/ Jeff Westerman EFF WESTERMAN
11	Jo	ordanna G. Thigpen
12		Attorneys for Plaintiffs GARY DAVIS and
13		SENE CASTILLO, individually, s Private Attorney Generals, and on behalf
14		f all others similarly situated
15	DATED: April 23, 2014 MILBER	RG LLP
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17		/ Nicole Duckett Fricke VICOLE DUCKETT FRICKE
18	A A	Attorneys for Plaintiffs GARY DAVIS and
19		GENE CASTILLO, individually, as Private Attorney Generals, and on behalf
20		of all others similarly situated
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I. <u>INTRODUCTION</u>

The parties have reached an agreement to settle this matter on the terms set forth in the Settlement Agreement (Agreement) attached as Exhibit 1 to the concurrently filed Declaration of Drew E. Pomerance. The terms of the settlement more than meet the requirements for preliminary approval. Chase has agreed to pay \$5.5 million in <u>cash benefits</u> to resolve this matter.

The Class alleged that Chase misled consumers and failed to properly apply its customers' payments first to regular balance purchases before promotional purchases. The result was that class members were wrongly assessed finance charges on those purchases.

This settlement pays real cash benefits back to class members and compensates them for some of the finance charges that Chase assessed against them. The settlement is the result of extensive negotiations that continued on and off for the past four years, substantial discovery, investigation, and analysis to verify the size and extent of the Class, the potential damages they incurred, as well as a thorough analysis of Plaintiffs' legal theories and Chase's defenses – both on the merits as well as having to do with class certification issues. As well, the parties twice mediated the dispute before the Honorable Edward Infante, Ret., who helped broker the terms of this Agreement.

Accordingly, the parties request that this Court preliminary approve this settlement as fair, reasonable and in the best interest of the Class, and that the Court further order that notice be sent to the class members in a manner that comports with basic notions of due process, and finally that the Court order a final fairness hearing to be scheduled as set forth below.

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II. BACKGROUND OF THE CASE

A. The Allegations

Plaintiff Gary Davis filed this putative class action complaint on June 26, 2006, alleging that Chase misled and deceived consumers in the manner in which it applied credit card payments to promotional purchases made at Circuit City. Mr. Davis alleged causes of action for violation of the Consumers Legal Remedies Act, violation of Business & Professions Code §17200, violation of Business & Professions Code §17500, fraud and deceit, breach of contract, breach of the implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing, and unjust enrichment. On behalf of the Class, Mr. Davis sought restitution and compensatory damages.

The basis of the lawsuit is Plaintiffs' allegation that Chase engaged in a deceptive and unfair business practice of misrepresenting a promotional purchase program and then misallocating payments made by customers participating in the program. Plaintiffs alleged that this resulted in customers not only failing to receive the benefit of Chase's promotional offer, but also being wrongly assessed finance and interest charges in violation of Chase's cardmember agreement.

Plaintiffs alleged Chase marketed promotional rewards card purchases at Circuit City as "interest free" (or some variant thereof) but charged California credit cardholders interest and fees for those purchases. (First Amended Complaint (FAC), ¶ 1, Docket No. 91.) Plaintiffs asserted that Chase improperly applied credit card payments to the "interest free" promotional balances that were not due before applying them to interest-bearing, non-promotional balances, causing consumers to incur interest and fees they otherwise would not have and in direct contradiction to Chase's advertising and its cardmember agreement. (Id. at ¶¶ 1, 20-25.)

For example, and with respect to Plaintiff Gary Davis, on March 3, 2006, he purchased a \$2,000 television from Circuit City under a promotional offer in which no interest or payments were due until January 2008. (Id. at \P 25.) Mr.

Davis then submitted a payment of \$1,736.91 to cover his preexisting February balance. Instead of allocating Mr. Davis' payment to his pre-existing balance, Chase applied the entire payment toward the just-purchased television, despite the promotional interest and payment-free grace period. Because Mr. Davis' entire payment was allocated to the promotional purchase, there were insufficient funds to cover Mr. Davis' preexisting February statement balance. Accordingly, Chase assessed a finance charge of \$77.25. (Id. at ¶¶ 22-25.) Plaintiffs alleged that payments made to Chase should have been allocated to the interest-bearing portion of balances first rather than to the deferred-interest/deferred-payment promotional purchases. (Id. at ¶¶ 28-29, 53.)

B. Procedural History

After the June 2006 filing of the case in state court, Defendants removed the action to this Court in August 2006. (Docket No. 1.) After addressing removal and remand issues, the case was stayed for approximately 21 months due to an appeal of the Court's determination that Chase's arbitration clause and class action waiver provisions in its cardmember agreements were unenforceable under California law. This Court's determination was eventually affirmed by the Ninth Circuit. (Docket No. 80.) Around that time, the claims against Circuit City were withdrawn due to its bankruptcy. (Docket No's. 79, 91.)

On March 17, 2009, Plaintiffs filed their FAC. (Docket No. 91.) On September 3, 2009, the Court dismissed Plaintiffs' Unfair Competition Law claim to the extent it challenged the allocation of payments apart from the way that allocation intersects with deceptive advertising. (Docket No. 112.) The Court subsequently dismissed Plaintiffs' Consumers Legal Remedies Act claim, and determined that Chase is not liable for any claims related to conduct prior to Chase's May 25, 2004 acquisition of the credit card assets at issue in the case. (Docket No's. 167, 203.) On January 16, 2013, the Court granted summary judgment on the breach of the implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing

claim. (Docket No. 291.) Accordingly, the two claims that remain are breach of contract and a limited claim for violation of the Unfair Competition Law.

The Court also denied Plaintiffs' Motion for Class Certification on January 16, 2013. (Docket No. 291.) The denial was based on the Court's finding that the "factual circumstances surrounding [Plaintiff Gary Davis'] purchases are so atypical as to fall below the normally permissive standard of Rule 23(a)'s typicality requirement." The Court found that "questions regarding [Plaintiff Gary Davis'] individual circumstances are likely to predominate over factual questions common to the class." (Docket No. 291.)

Gene Castillo subsequently moved for an order granting leave to file a complaint in intervention. Plaintiff Gary Davis moved simultaneously, and in the alternative, for leave to file a second amended complaint adding Gene Castillo as a party Plaintiff. (Docket No. 293.) Chase moved to dismiss the entire case as moot. (Docket No. 296.) These motions are all currently set to be heard on October 27, 2014. (Docket No. 329.)

C. Mediation and Settlement

The parties initially participated in private mediation on June 18, 2009. (Declaration of Drew E. Pomerance (Pomerance Decl.), \P 2.) A second mediation with a different neutral, the Honorable Edward Infante, Ret., took place on November 16, 2011. The parties remained unable to resolve the litigation. (Pomerance Decl., \P 3.)

Following the Court's denial of Plaintiff's Motion for Class Certification, the parties participated in a third mediation on October 22, 2013. This mediation was again held with Judge Infante. (Pomerance Decl., ¶ 4.) Drew E. Pomerance of Roxborough, Pomerance, Nye & Adreani, LLP and Jeff Westerman of Westerman Law Corp., attended on behalf of the Class, while Chase was represented by its attorneys, Julia Strickland and Stephen Newman of Stroock & Stroock & Lavan, LLP. Also attending the mediation on behalf of Chase were

several of its authorized representatives. (Pomerance Decl., \P 5.) The mediation session lasted all day, and resulted in a tentative agreement which was subject to confirmatory discovery whereby Chase would have to verify under oath the size of the Class, the amount of finance charges that Plaintiffs contend were improperly charged and collected by Chase, and the period of time in which the promotional purchases were made. (Pomerance Decl., \P 6.)

Chase produced a detailed declaration under penalty of perjury from Suzanne Morgan, a Risk Director in Chase's Risk Department who has worked for Chase or its predecessor Bank One since 1997. Ms. Morgan is familiar with and oversaw the compilation of data that produced information necessary for Class Counsel to evaluate the reasonableness of the settlement. (Pomerance Decl., ¶ 7.) After carefully evaluating Ms. Morgan's declaration, Class Counsel determined that the existing deal adequately compensates the Class. (Pomerance Decl., ¶ 8.) The parties have now formalized and finalized a settlement agreement.

The settlement agreement calls for Chase to establish a settlement fund totaling \$5.5 million. (Pomerance Decl., \P 9.) Class Counsel are now confident that they have properly evaluated the risks of further prosecuting this class action as compared to the benefits of the current settlement proposal, and as well have appropriately evaluated the reasonableness of the benefits that will be going to the Class. (Pomerance Decl., \P 10.)

Given the substantial delays resulting from further prosecution of this lawsuit, Chase's pending motion for dismissal, the Court's denial of the Motion for Class Certification, and the serious and fundamental question of whether the Class would ever prevail on the merits, Class Counsel is confident that this settlement entered into at this time, and on these terms, is more than fair and reasonable, and should be preliminarily approved by this Court. (Pomerance Decl., ¶ 11.)

III. THE SETTLEMENT

The settlement reached by the parties provides real and tangible benefits to the Class, and as such, more than meets the standards required to be deemed fair and reasonable. This is an <u>all cash</u> settlement, and does <u>not</u> involve the provision of coupons whatsoever. If approved, the key terms of the settlement are as follows:

- (a) Chase will contribute \$5.5 million for the benefit of the settlement class (Exhibit (Exh.) 1, Settlement Agreement, §4.1.);
- (b) All class members for whom the settlement administrator is able to determine a valid address shall receive a direct payment. (Exh. 1, §§ 4.4-4.6.) These class members need not make a claim or do anything in order to receive payment. Based on confirmatory discovery, there are approximately 437,918 class members who are eligible to receive direct payments. (Pomerance Decl., ¶ 13.) The discovery has also disclosed that this group incurred an average finance charge of approximately \$40.33. (Pomerance Decl., ¶ 14.) The direct payments to class members should be approximately \$10 each. (Pomerance Decl., ¶ 15.) Thus, this group is receiving back approximately 25% of what they allege to be their damages (Pomerance Decl., ¶ 16.);
- (c) Chase has agreed, subject to this Court's approval, to pay service awards to class representatives Gary Davis and Gene Castillo in amounts not to exceed \$5,000 each, to compensate them for their time and effort in prosecuting this case (Exh. 1, §5.1.);
- (d) Chase has also agreed, subject to court approval, not to oppose Class Counsel's fee request up to \$1.5 million which represents 27% of the \$5.5 million common fund. (Exh. 1, §5.1.) A fee of 25% is the benchmark in the Ninth Circuit, and the attorneys' fees were

negotiated <u>separately from and after</u> the parties reached their agreement on the benefits going to the Class (Pomerance Decl., ¶ 17.);

(e) Costs of notice and administration are to be paid by the Class, to be deducted from the settlement fund. (Exh. 1, §§4.2, 4.4).

IV. THE PROPOSED SETTLEMENT WARRANTS PRELIMINARY APPROVAL

As a matter of public policy, settlement is a strongly favored method for resolving disputes. *See Util. Reform Project v. Bonneville Power Admin.*, 869 F.2d 437, 443 (9th Cir. 1989). This is especially true in complex class actions such as this one. *Officers for Justice v. Civil Serv. Comm'n*, 688 F.2d 615, 625 (9th Cir. 1982).

A. Standards for Preliminary Approval

Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23(e) requires judicial approval for the compromise of claims brought on a class basis. At the final approval hearing, the Court will have before it extensive papers submitted in support of the proposed settlement. The Court will be asked to make a determination whether the settlement is fair, reasonable and adequate under the circumstances. At this juncture, however, Plaintiffs request only that the Court grant preliminary approval of the settlement.

In determining whether preliminary approval is warranted, the sole issue before the Court is whether the proposed settlement is within the range of what might be found fair, reasonable, and adequate, so that notice of the proposed settlement should be given to Class members and a hearing scheduled to consider final settlement approval. *See Manual for Complex Litigation* §13.14, at 173 (4th ed. 2004) ("First, the [court] reviews the proposal preliminarily to determine whether it is sufficient to warrant public notice and a hearing. If so, the final decision on approval is made after the hearing.")

To grant preliminary approval, the Court need only conclude settlement of the claims against Defendant on the agreed-upon terms is within the range of possible approval for the purposes of providing notice and holding a future fairness hearing.

B. The Proposed Settlement Merits Preliminary Approval

The factors that courts consider in granting final approval of class action settlements lend support to the settling parties' belief that the proposed settlement is within the range of possible approval. In *Officers for Justice*, the Ninth Circuit set forth the factors the trial court should consider in assessing whether a proposed settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate.

Although Rule 23(e) is silent respecting the standard by which a proposed settlement is to be evaluated, the universally applied standard is whether the settlement is fundamentally fair, adequate, and reasonable. The district court's ultimate determination will necessarily involve a balancing of several factors which may include, among others, some or all of the following: the strength of plaintiffs' case; the risk, expense, complexity, and likely duration of further litigation; the risk of maintaining class action status throughout the trial, the amount offered in settlement; the extent of discovery completed, and the stage of the proceedings; the experience and views of counsel; the presence of a governmental participant; and the reaction of the class members to the proposed settlement.

Id. at 625 (citations omitted). Accord Torrisi v. Tucson Elec. Power Co., 8 F.3d 1370, 1375 (9th Cir. 1993); Hanlon v. Chrysler Corp., 150 F.3d 1011, 1026 (9th Cir. 1998).

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1. Plaintiffs Have Engaged In Sufficient Discovery and Investigation to Properly Evaluate the Propriety of Settlement

As a result of extensive negotiations and discovery, counsel have been able to fairly and properly evaluate the risks of litigation and the propriety of this settlement. In addition to formal discovery over the course of several years, Class Counsel also conducted a thorough investigation and analysis of data that was voluntarily supplied under oath by Chase's authorized representative. The information Class Counsel received from Chase through both formal and informal discovery was detailed, thorough, and directly responsive to Class Counsel's inquiries. (Pomerance Decl., ¶¶ 18-20.)

After analyzing the discovery, Class Counsel persisted in asking follow up questions which Chase answered. In addition to carefully studying the information obtained through formal and informal confirmatory discovery, Class Counsel have also carefully evaluated the legal issues, including the Court's denial of the Motion for Class Certification, the potential that the Court may grant Chase's motion to dismiss, and the likelihood of prevailing on the merits. (Pomerance Decl., ¶21.)

Class Counsel therefore believes that they have sufficiently analyzed both the liability and damages information necessary to properly evaluate the propriety of the settlement. Based on this analysis, and the current status of the case, Class Counsel have determined that a settlement of \$5.5 million is in the best interest of the Class. (Pomerance Decl., ¶ 22.)

2. The Strength of Plaintiffs' Case, When Balanced Against the Risk, Expense and Duration of Further Litigation, Supports Approval of This Settlement

This settlement is well within the range of possible approval. The Court has denied the Motion for Class Certification. In most cases that would be it.

In addition, even if the Court were to deny Chase's motion to dismiss, several obstacles remain to the Class prevailing on the merits at trial. A substantial risk will remain that the Class will be unable to obtain certification. For example, Chase has argued and will undoubtedly continue to argue that the circumstances surrounding each particular transaction, including the possible violation of the terms of the cardmember agreement by cardholders, will result in individualized issues.

Finally, even if the Class was able to achieve certification, it is far from certain whether the Class would prevail on the merits. Chase has vigorously disputed Plaintiffs' claims on the merits. Chase contends that its cardmember agreement and other materials expressly allowed it to allocate payments to lower-interest balances before higher-interest balances. And, just getting to a trial on the merits could take up to several years more, on top of the eight years that the case has thus far proceeded. The proposed settlement eliminates the risks associated with continuing litigation, including possible outright dismissal, as well as the substantial risk of no recovery after several more years of litigation.

The immediacy and certainty of recovery is a factor for the court to balance in determining whether the proposed settlement is fair, adequate and reasonable. See In Re Mego Financial Corporation Securities Litigation, 213 F.3d 454, 458 (9th Cir. 2000). Hence, the present settlement must be balanced against the expense, risk and delay of achieving a more favorable result at trial.

Approval of the settlement means a present, tangible and significant recovery for the Class. The benefits are all cash – no coupons whatsoever.

Individuals were billed on average approximately \$40.33 in improper finance charges, and most of the class members (if settlement is approved) will receive approximately \$10, without needing to file a claim form or dig up records, which in some cases may be a decade old. The class members, of which there are approximately 437,918, will be receiving 25% of their total claimed damages on a completely risk free basis, without any further delay, and without further risk of dismissal of the entire case.

Absent the settlement, the case will proceed with a hearing on Chase's motion to dismiss, Plaintiff Gary Davis' motion for leave to amend, and Gene Castillo's motion to intervene. Additional discovery will proceed, if allowed by the Court, and yet another motion for class certification will take place. If that is granted, more rounds of motions to dismiss and for summary judgment are expected. While Class Counsel believes they have well-founded arguments in support of Plaintiffs' claims, there is no question that settlement at this time ensures an immediate and substantial recovery for settlement class members with no further risk whatsoever.

3. The Recommendations of Experienced Counsel Favor the Approval of Settlement

Plaintiffs' counsel have concluded that the settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate after carefully considering and evaluating, among other things, the relevant legal authorities and the substantial data and information provided by Chase, as well as evaluating the likelihood of prevailing on the merits, the risks, expense and duration of continued litigation, and the likely appeals and subsequent proceedings necessary if Plaintiffs did prevail against Chase at trial. There is no question the settlement is in the best interest of the Class.

Due to counsels' extensive efforts over an eight year period on the Class' behalf and the settlement achieved, Plaintiffs' counsel have provided fair and adequate representation to the Class. Plaintiffs' counsel have significant

experience in complex class action litigation and have negotiated numerous other substantial class action settlements throughout the country. Where, as here, the settlement is the product of serious, informed, non-collusive negotiations, significant weight should be attributed to the belief of experienced Class Counsel that settlement is in the best interest of the Class. *See National Rural Telecommunications Cooperative v. DIRECTV, Inc.*, 221 F.R.D. 523, 528 (C.D. Cal. 2004) (finding that "great weight' is accorded to the recommendation of counsel, who are most closely acquainted with the facts of the underlying litigation."); *In Re Washington Public Power Supply Systems Securities Litigation*, 720 F. Supp. 1379, 1392 (D. Ariz. 1989), *aff'd sub nom., Class Plaintiffs v. City of Seattle* 955 F.2d 1268, 1296 (9th Cir. 1992).

The proposed settlement satisfies the preliminary approval standard. Notice of a fairness hearing should issue forthwith to the settlement Class.

V. <u>CERTIFICATION OF THE SETTLEMENT CLASS IS PROPER</u>

The parties have stipulated to class certification for settlement purposes only. (Exh. 1, §3.1.) The Supreme Court has expressly approved the use of a settlement class. *See Amchem Products v. Windsor*, 521 U.S. 591, 620 (1997). Plaintiffs request that the court enter an order conditionally certifying a class for settlement purposes, defined as follows:

All Chase Circuit City Rewards Credit Cardmembers with California billing addresses who, between May 26, 2004 and the entry of preliminary approval of this Settlement (inclusive), made a promotional or deferred-interest purchase at Circuit City and who, as a result of payments or credits being allocated to a regular purchase balance after the promotional or deferred-interest balance, paid more in finance charges than they would have paid if the payments or credits had first been applied to the regular purchase balance.

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The agreed upon settlement class satisfies all requirements of Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23(a) and (b)(3).

A. The Settlement Class Is So Numerous That Joinder of All Settlement Class Members Is Impracticable

Rule 23(a)(1) requires the Class be so numerous that joinder of all class members is "impracticable." That phrase does not require that joinder be impossible, only that it would be difficult or inconvenient to join all class members. *Harris v. Palm Springs Alpine Estates, Inc.*, 329 F.2d 909, 913-14 (9th Cir. 1964). There is no fixed number of class members that either compels or precludes class certification. *Arnold v. United Artists Theater Circuit, Inc.*, 158 F.R.D. 439, 448 (N.D. Cal. 1994).

Here, there is no question that Plaintiffs proposed settlement class satisfies the numerosity requirement. Confirmatory discovery has revealed that there are approximately 437,918 class members, and obviously joinder would be highly impracticable.

B. Common Questions of Law and Fact

Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23(a)(2) requires that there be questions of law or fact common to the Class. A common nucleus of operative facts suffices to satisfy the commonality requirement. *See Moore v. Fitness Intern., LLC*, 2013 WL 3189080, 5 (S.D. Cal. 2013); *Hanlon*, 150 F.3d at 1019-1020. Rule 23's "commonality" requirement is not particularly rigorous. Indeed "one significant issue common to the Class may be sufficient to warrant certification . . . the necessary showing to satisfy commonality is minimal." *Blackwell v. Sky West Airlines*, 245 F.R.D. 453, 460 (S.D. Cal. 2007).

In this case, there are numerous questions of fact and law that would satisfy Rule 23(a)(2). This action would require the Court to address the following questions that undoubtedly affect all class members:

1. Whether Chase's payment allocation policy breached the terms of

the cardmember contract when Chase gave priority of payment to promotional items that were not yet due or owing;

- 2. Whether Chase's allocation of payments violates the Unfair Competition Law because it is contrary to the advertisements used to promote the promotional purchases;
- 3. Whether Chase's allocation of payments violates the Unfair Competition Law because it is contrary to the cardmember contract;
- 4. Whether Chase's payment allocation policy was applied in a uniform and consistent manner to the Class as a whole.

Underlying these basic common questions is a common nucleus of operative facts pertaining to Chase's marketing of its Circuit City Rewards Card promotional purchases, and how it allocated its customers' payments on the card. Thus, the settlement class satisfies the commonality requirement of Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23(a).

C. Plaintiffs' Claims Are Typical of Those of the Settlement Class

"Representative claims are typical if they are reasonably co-extensive with those of absent class members; the need not be substantially identical." *Hanlon*, 150 F.3d at 1020; *accord Staton v. Boeing Co.*, 327 F.3d 938, 957 (9th Cir. 2003). Rule 23(a)(3) requires only that there be no express conflict between the representative parties and the Class over the very issue in litigation and that the representative's interests are not antagonistic to those of the Class. *Stolz v. United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners, et al.*, 620 F.Supp. 396, 404 (D. Nev. 1985).

While this Court recently determined that Plaintiff Gary Davis could not represent the Class if the Class were to be certified in a ruling by the Court, Chase has stipulated and agreed, for purposes of certifying a settlement class, to Gary Davis and Gene Castillo serving as the class representative Plaintiffs, and to their

adequacy to serve in that capacity. (Exh. 1, § 3.1.) The typicality requirement is satisfied here through Plaintiffs serving as class representatives because they and the settlement class members alleged the same set of operative facts. They and every putative class member made a promotional or deferred-interest purchase at Circuit City and had their payments or credits allocated to a regular purchase balance after the promotional or deferred-interest balance, which resulted in more finance charges than they would have paid if the payments or credits had first been applied to the regular purchase balance. There is no dispute that the class representatives fall directly within these allegations, and thus satisfy the typicality requirement.

D. The Adequacy Requirement Is Satisfied

Rule 23(a)(4) requires "the representative parties will fairly and adequately protect the interests of the class." Courts have established a two-prong test for this requirement. See, e.g., In re Apple iPod iTunes Antitrust Litigation, 2008 WL 5574487, 6 (N.D. Cal. 2008) (citing Hanlon, 150 F.3d at 1020); Schaefer v. Overland Express Family of Funds, 169 F.R.D. 124, 130 (S.D. Cal. 1996). First, counsel for the class representatives must be competent to undertake the particular litigation at hand. Second, there can be no antagonism or disabling conflict between the interests of the named class representative and the members of the class. See Hanlon, 150 F.3d at 1020.

Plaintiffs' claims do not conflict with the Settlement Class' claims.

Plaintiffs have vigorously pursued common claims on behalf of themselves and all Class members. All of Plaintiffs' claims are directed at resolving the issues raised by Chase's allocation of payments to promotional and non-promotional purchases, an issue common to all Class members. Plaintiffs' vigorous pursuit of this litigation confirms their strong interest in achieving a successful result for the Class. Further, Plaintiffs retained attorneys with extensive experience in the area of consumer class action litigation who have successfully prosecuted numerous

class actions and other complex litigation on behalf of injured consumers in this District and across the country. There can be no legitimate dispute that Plaintiffs' Counsel have vigorously and skillfully prosecuted this Litigation, securing a settlement that is in the Class' best interests. In addition, Chase has stipulated and agreed, for purposes of certifying a settlement class, that Plaintiffs are adequate class representatives.

The second requirement also is satisfied here. There is no antagonism between the proposed representatives and the absent Settlement Class members. All claims arise from the same set of operative facts and course of conduct, and both Plaintiff and absent Settlement Class members share the common goal of maximizing recovery. *Lubin v. Sybedon Corp.*, 688 F.Supp. 1425, 1461 (S.D. Cal. 1988).

E. The Proposed Settlement Class Satisfies Rule 23(b)(3)

In addition to meeting the prerequisites of Rule 23(a), the present action satisfies the requirements of Rule 23(b)(3), which mandates that common questions of law or fact predominate over individual questions and that a class action is superior to other available methods of adjudication. *See Hernandez v. Alexander*, 152 F.R.D. 192, 193-94 (D. Nev. 1993). Here, common questions of law and fact predominate, and a class action is the superior, if not the only, method available to fairly and efficiently litigate these claims.

1. Common Questions of Law and Fact Predominate

Where a complaint alleges a common course of misrepresentations, omissions and other wrongdoings that affect all members of the class in the same manner, common questions predominate. *Blackie v. Barrack*, 524 F.2d 891, 905-8 (9th Cir. 1975). The Court's inquiry should be directed primarily toward the issue of liability. *Id.* at 902.

There are a host of common questions of law and fact, which Plaintiffs seek to certify. As discussed above, Plaintiffs seek certification for causes of action

arising under the Unfair Competition Law, and basic contract law. Three factual issues bear on these claims: (i) Chase's application of the terms of its cardmember agreement with respect to the allocation of payments when a cardholder made promotional and non-promotional purchases; (ii) Chase's assessment of finance charges based on its allocation of payments; and (iii) whether Chase's actions violated the terms of its contract and were contrary to its advertisements. These common factual issues predominate over any purported individual factual issues.

2. <u>A Class Action Is Superior to Other Available Methods for</u> Resolving this Controversy

Rule 23(b)(3) also requires the Court to determine that "a class action is superior to other available methods for fairly and efficiently adjudicating the controversy." A class action is superior where "classwide litigation of common issues will reduce litigation costs and promote greater efficiency." *Valentino v. Carter-Wallace, Inc.*, 97 F.3d 1227, 1234 (9th Cir. 1996).

The class action vehicle is the superior method for adjudicating relatively low-value consumer claims. See, e.g., Miletak v. Allstate Ins. Co. 2010 WL 809579, 13 (N.D.Cal. 2010) ("a class action is superior when it is the only realistic form of adjudication available") (citing Valentino, 97 F.3d at 1234-35). Where "each member's claim is likely too small to be worth pursuing in an individual action . . . a class action may be the only method for providing meaningful recovery." Miletak 2010 WL 809579 at 13; see also Lowden v. T-Mobile USA, Inc. 512 F.3d 1213, 1218 (9th Cir. 2008) ("when consumer claims are small but numerous, a class-based remedy is the only effective method to vindicate the public's rights").

Here, Plaintiffs present class-wide allegations premised on common evidence. Trying each Class claim separately would be inefficient, when each of thousands of cases would allege identical misconduct and offer identical proof of Chase's liability. See In re Juniper Networks, Inc. Securities Litigation, 264

F.R.D. 584, 592 (N.D. Cal. 2009); Mejdreck v. Lockformer Co., 2002 WL 1838141, 7 (N.D. III. 2002). Most of those injured have not been damaged to a degree where it would be cost-effective for them to seek recovery on their own. Further, without the class settlement device, Defendant could not obtain a classwide release, and therefore would have little, if any, incentive to enter into the settlement. Certification of the Class for settlement purposes will enable Plaintiffs' Counsel to handle the administration of the settlement in an organized and efficient manner. Resolution of Plaintiffs' and the Settlement Class' claims against Defendant through the proposed Class is superior to any other available 9 method of resolution. Accordingly, certification of the Class is appropriate.

THE PROPOSED NOTICE IS ADEQUATE VI.

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Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23(c)(2)(B) provides, "[f]or any class certified under Rule 23(b)(3), the court must direct to class members the best notice that is practicable under the circumstances, including individual notice to all members who can be identified through reasonable effort." Rule 23(e)(1) says, "[t]he court must direct notice in a reasonable manner to all class members who would be bound by the proposal."

Where notice is being sent in connection with a proposed settlement, the notice must inform class members about the settlement's terms and their options with respect thereto. See Torrisi, 8 F.3d at 1374 (9th Cir. 1993).

The notice to a Rule 23(b)(3) class must concisely and clearly state in plain, easily understood language:

- the nature of the action,
- the definition of the class certified,
- the class claims, issues, or defenses,
- that a class member may enter an appearance through counsel if the member so desires,
- that the court will exclude from the class any member who requests

exclusion, stating when and how members may elect to be excluded, and

the binding effect of a class judgment on class members under Rule 23(c)(3).

In accordance with Rule 23, the Parties have negotiated a Full Notice of Settlement and a Postcard Notice (the "Notices") to be disseminated to the Settlement Class. The Postcard Notice and the Full Notice are attached to the Pomerance Declaration as Exhibits 2 and 3, respectively. The Postcard Notice will be sent by U.S. mail to all Settlement Class members who can be identified with reasonable effort through Chase's records to inform them about the settlement's terms, their rights in connection with the settlement, and the date of the Final Fairness Hearing, at which time the Court will consider final approval of the settlement and attorneys' fees and expenses. The Postcard Notice will provide a link to the Settlement Website for class members to obtain the Full Notice of Settlement.

The Full Notice will be available on the website described in the postcard notice as well as being made available via mail from the administrator to those who call in and request the full notice. *See Manual for Complex Litigation 4th* at §21.311 ("many courts include the Internet as a component of class certification and class settlement notice programs."). The Full Notice describes in simple language the nature, history and status of the Litigation, sets forth the Class definition, states the Class claims and issues, discloses the right of people who fall within the Class definition to exclude themselves from it, as well as the deadline and procedure for doing so and warns of the binding effect of the settlement approval proceedings on people who stay in the Class.

In addition, the Full Notice describes the Settlement and sets forth the benefits Plaintiffs propose to distribute among the Class, sets out the amount of attorneys' fees and expenses that Plaintiffs' Counsel intend to seek in connection

with final settlement approval, including the amount of the requested fees and expenses, provides contact information for Counsel, and summarizes the reasons the Parties are proposing the settlement. The Full Notice discloses the date, time and place of the formal fairness hearing, and the procedures for commenting on the settlement and appearing at the hearing. The contents of the Full Notice therefore satisfy all applicable requirements.

Plaintiffs believe notice via U.S. mail is the best notice practicable under the circumstances, exceeds the notice given in other consumer class actions, and exceeds due process requirements. *See generally Torrisi*, 8 F.3d at 1374; *In re Domestic Air Transp. Antritrust Litig.*, 141 F.R.D. 534, 548-53 (N.D. Ga. 1992) (holding that under certain circumstances notice by publication only satisfies due process requirements). In addition, the Full Notice will be posted on the Claims Administrator's website. *See Farinella v. PayPal, Inc.*, 611 F. Supp.2d 250, 256 (E.D.N.Y. 2009) (approving "multifaceted notice program" that included website notice).

Notice of this Settlement also shall be provided to state and federal officials in accordance with the requirements of the Class Action Fairness Act, 28 U.S.C. §1715(a) and (b), which requires appropriate state and federal officials to be provided with the Complaint (or information on how to access it), the Settlement Agreement and Class notices, and information on the Class' composition. Accordingly, in granting preliminary settlement approval, the Court should also approve the Parties' proposed form and method of giving notice to the Class.

VII. SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

In connection with the settlement's preliminary approval, the Court must set a final approval hearing date, dates for mailing the Postcard Notice and deadlines for objecting to the settlement, opting out of the Class, and filing papers in support of the Settlement. If the Court enters the Notice Order at the hearing on Plaintiffs' Motion for Preliminary Approval of Class Action Settlement, Plaintiffs propose

	Case 08-35653-KRH Doc 13532-1 Filed 12/18/14 Er Exhibit(s) Part 1 Page 74 of Casse 2086356549074HDDP:HailW22DdcBare 2035456549074HDDP:HailW22DdcBare 20354654907472290	ntered 12/18/14 16:55:42 6 75 3/124esRaggenHult(sf)32 Paaggesl
1	the following schedule: ¹	
2		
3	Last day to mail postcard notice to Class July	3, 2014
4		
5	Last day for Settlement Class members to Aug	ust 18, 2014
6	opt-out of settlement	
7		
8	Last day for Settlement Class members to Aug	gust 18, 2014
9	object to settlement	
10		
11	Date by which to file papers in support of July	28, 2014
12	settlement, and request for attorneys' fees	
13	and expenses	
14	<u> </u>	
15		tember 22, 2014
16	at 10	0:00 a.m.

VIII. CONCLUSION

This Settlement is the result of an eight year litigation odyssey involving extensive investigation, analysis and discovery, multiple and complex motion work, three formal mediation sessions, and hard fought negotiations by experienced arm's length counsel. The Settlement provides real, tangible and immediate relief to consumers without any further costs or delay. For the reasons

Desc

These dates have been proposed in anticipation of the instant unopposed motion being heard on an expedited basis on May 5, 2014. The parties have concurrently filed a Stipulation and Proposed Order to set the hearing on that date, per the Court's prior tentative approval of the hearing being set on an expedited basis. The suggested dates are therefore subject to change if the instant motion is heard after May 5, 2014.

	Case 08-35653-KRH Doc 13532-1 Filed 12/18/14 Entered 12/18/14 16:55:42 Desc Exhibit(s) Part 1 Page 75 of 75 Casse208635653-8074HDDPHRIDW22DdcHane2t 3372edFiled1124123/12escafpch3dit(sf)32 Pagge32D #6f7229.
1	set forth above, the proposed settlement warrants the Court's preliminary
2	approval.
3	
4	
5	DATED: April 23, 2014 ROXBOROUGH, POMERANCE, NYE & ADREANI, LLP
6	By: s/Drew E. Pomerance
7	DREW E. POMERANCE BURTON E. FALK
8	Attorneys for Plaintiffs GARY DAVIS and
9	GENE CASTILLO, individually, as Private Attorney Generals, and on behalf
10	of all others similarly situated
11	
12 13	DATED: April 23, 2014 WESTERMAN LAW CORP.
14	By: s/ Jeff Westerman
15	JEFF WESTERMAN
16	JORDANNA G. THIGPEN Attorneys for Plaintiffs GARY DAVIS and
17	GENE CASTILLO, individually,
18	as Private Attorney Generals, and on behalf of all others similarly situated
19	of all others similarly situated
20	DATED: April 23, 2014 MILBERG LLP
21	By: s/ Nicole Duckett Fricke
22	NICOLE DUCKETT FRICKE Attorneys for Plaintiffs GARY DAVIS and
23	GENE CASTILLO, individually,
24	as Private Attorney Generals, and on behalf
25	of all others similarly situated
26	
27	
28	
	22
	MOTION FOR PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF SETTLEMENT
	CASE NO. CV 06 4804 DDP (PJWx)